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No. 50,895—NEW SERIES.

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† CARTHAGE	5198	M. De Horne	30th „
M.L. PENINSULAR	5287	W. A. Wheler	6th Feb.
* SHANNON	4189	E. Crewe	13th „
M.* INDIA	8000	R. F. Briscoe	20th „
* CARTHAGE	5198	M. DeHorne	27th „
M.L. CALEDONIA	7558	W. B. Andrews	6th March.
* SHANNON	4189	E. Crewe	13th „
M.* AUSTRALIA	6901	L. Reeves	20th „
* CARTHAGE	5198	M. DeHorne	27th „
M.L. INDIA	8000	R. F. Briscoe	3rd April.
* SHANNON	4189	E. Crewe	10th „
M.L. PENINSULAR	5287	W. A. Wheler	17th „
* CARTHAGE	5198	M. De Horne	24th „
M.L. AUSTRALIA	6901	L. Reeves	1st May.
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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

TOWN HALL.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20TH, 1897.
UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF
T. E. THE GOVERNOR AND
LADY SANDHURST.

SIGNOR SCRINZI'S
GRAND VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT.

The whole net proceeds to be given
IN AID OF THE
NURSING FUND,
ST. GEORGE EUROPEAN HOSPITAL.

PROGRAMME.
PART I.
1. Solo Piano ... (a) Prelude. Etude d'execution transcendante .... Liszt. (b) Polonaise in A ♭ Major ...... Chopin
SIGNOR SCRINZI.
2 Song......... Siciliana, from Cavalleria Rusticana... Mascagni. (To be sung in the original Sicilian dialect.)
Mr. H. O. COATES.
3 Song............ Sing Again. (Words by Shelley)...Scrinzi.
Mrs. FARLOW.
4 Solo Violin.... Legende .... Wieniawski.
Mr. A. MASON.
5 Solo Piano..La Campanella. Grande etude de Paganini..Liszt.
SIGNOR SCRINZI.
INTERVAL OF 15 MINUTES.

PART II.
1 Solo Piano.....Andante from Concerto op. 25... Mendelssohn. (With Accompaniment of Orchestra.)
SIGNOR SCRINZI.
2 Song .... "Oh! Robert"—Robert le Diable...Meyerbeer.
Mrs. FARLOW.
3 Solo Cornet ...The Star of Bethlehem................Adams. (With Organ Accompaniment.)
Mr. A. RHENIUS.
4 Song .... Standchen .... Schubert.
Mr. H. O. COATES
5 Solo Piano...Grand Caprice sur "La Sonnambula"..Thalberg.
SIGNOR SCRINZI.

ACCOMPANISTS.
At the Piano .... Miss WALTON.
At the Organ .... Mr. F. S. DOVE.

Band of the Marine Battalion by kind permission of the Commanding Officer and Officers.
Conductor .... Mr. MALLANDAINE.
Mann's Grand Piano. Brinsmead's Grand Piano.
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AT Messrs. ROSE & Co.'s
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Tenders should be sent in so as to reach the Huzur Deputy Collector, Nasik, not later than 12-30 P.M., official time, on the 26th February, 1897.

H. F. SILCOCK,
Collector of Nasik.

Nasik, 9th January, 1897.

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F. D. STRANACK,
Manager.

Esplanade Road, Bombay, 4th January, 1897.

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NOTICES.

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A NEW PRICE-LIST for the Bombay Depot, JUST PUBLISHED, will be supplied free to Members.

GENERAL MANAGER.

January, 1897.

NOTICE.

IT has been brought to our notice that some dealers in the Kathiawar District has been selling a LOW CLASS of BEER styling it as TENNENT'S PILSENER BEER, any one giving information sufficient to bring about a conviction will be Handsomely Rewarded.

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The SUBSCRIPTION LIST will be CLOSED on 20th January, 1897.

GUARANTEE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA IN COUNCIL.

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(Incorporated under the Indian Companies Act, 1882.)

CAPITAL .... Rs. 36,00,000,
Divided into 36,000 SHARES of Rs. 100 each,
OF WHICH
30,000 SHARES are now OFFERED for Public Subscription.

PAYABLE AS FOLLOWS, VIZ.:—
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On ALLOTMENT ...... „ 10 „

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Payment in full may be made at any time after allotment.

Subject to the provisions of the law in force in British India, the Company is authorised to pay interest at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum during the construction of the line.

Interest at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum on the actual Expenditure charged in the Capital Account is guaranteed to the Company by the Secretary of State for India in Council out of the Revenues of India during the continuance of the Contract. Surplus net earnings, over 3 per cent., will be divisible in equal Shares between the Secretary of State and the Company.

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BANKERS:
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SOLICITORS:
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ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

THE BRAHMAPUTRA - SULTANPUR BRANCH RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED, has been fromed to acquire from the concessionaires a concession granted by the Secretary of State for India in Council for a Branch Railway from the Station of Sultanpur on the Eastern Bengal State Railway through Bogra to Kaliganj (a distance of nearly 60 miles), or any suitable ferry station thereabouts on the Brahmaputra River.

The line, which is to be of metre gauge, will be constructed by the Secretary of State, who will provide the requisite land free of cost.

The Secretary of State will, through State or other Agency, work and maintain the Railway, and will provide and maintain all necessary rolling-stock in consideration of 45 per cent. of the gross earnings.

The estimates prepared for the Director-General of Railways show that the line should be constructed for a sum which, including Interest on Capital during construction, etc., will amount to about 30 lakhs of rupees.

The Manager of the Eastern Bengal State Railway, in his Official Report on the proposed line, gives it as his opinion that the financial prospects of the line are good. He estimates the gross annual earnings of the line at Rs. 2,96,530 on the basis of a traffic of Rs. 125 per mile per week on the Sultanpur-Bogra Section of 24·5 miles and Rs. 75 per mile per week on the length from Bogra to Kaliganj (35·2 miles).

The above estimate of gross earnings of Rs. 2,96,530, which, it is believed, will prove to be a moderate one, would give the Company as its annual net earnings, after allowing Rs. 5,000 for Calcutta office expenses, the sum of Rs. 1,58,091, equal to a return of about 5¼ per cent. on an estimated cost of 30 lakhs. On this basis the return to the Shareholders, after deducting the Secretary of State's moiety of surplus net earnings over 3 per cent., would amount to about 4 1-8 per cent.

The Secretary of State may, by giving to the Company not less than twelve months' notice determine the Contract on the 31st December, 1919, or on the 31st December in the last year of any subsequent period of ten years, or on the 31st December, 1948.

If the Contract shall be determined on the 31st December, 1919, or at the expiration of any subsequent period of 10 years, the purchase price shall be equal to twenty-five times the amount of the average yearly net earnings during the five years immediately preceding, but so that the total amount shall not exceed by more than 20 per cent. the total Capital Expenditure, or be less than such total Capital Expenditure. If the Contract is determined on 31st December 1948 (50 years), the purchase price to be the total amount of the Capital Expenditure.

The Secretary of State accepts no responsibility for the estimates of the cost of the Railway or its probable profits after completion.

Copies of the Provisional Contract with Government and the agreement for sale to the Company and of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company can be inspected at the Office of the Solicitors for the Company.

Full Prospectuses and Forms of Application for Shares may be obtained from the Managing Agents, the Bankers or Solicitors of the Company.

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[illegible] or peasants, rich [illegible] the world renown- [illegible] ich is now to be [illegible] d in whole of [illegible] are known [illegible] the world [illegible] Sewing

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"Dear Sir,—I am a poor hand at expressing my feelings, but I should like to thank you. Your lozenges have done wonders in relieving my terrible cough. Since I had the operation of 'Tracheotomy' (the same as the late Emperor of Germany, and unlike him, thank God, I am still alive) performed at St. Bartholomew's Hospital no one could possibly have had a more violent cough; it was so bad at times that it quite exhausted me. The mucous, which was very copious and hard, has been softened, and I have been able to get rid of it without difficulty.—I am, sir, yours truly, J. HILL."

A DOCTOR'S TESTIMONY.
A DOCTOR'S TESTIMONY.
A DOCTOR'S TESTIMONY.

"Routh Park, Cardiff, South Wales, Sept. 28, 1893.
"I have, indeed, great pleasure in adding my testimony to your excellent preparation of Cough Lozenges, and I have prescribed it now for the last eight years in my hospitals and private practice, and found it of great benefit. I often suffer from Chronic Bronchitis, your Lozenge is the only remedy which gives me immediate ease. Therefore I certainly and most strongly recommend your Lozenges to the public who may suffer from Catarrh, Bronchitis, Winter Cough, or any kind of Pulmonary Irritation.—Yours truly,
A. GABRIEL, M.D., L.R.C.P. and L.M. Edinburgh,
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BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 6h. 35m. Sun sets, 5h. 43m. High water, 6-18m., 9-55a. Low water, 2-7m., 1-50a.
Municipal Corporation, 3 p.m.
Transport Dunera due to arrive daylight.
Bombay Foxhounds meet, Santa Cruz.

Postal Notice.—Mails for Seychelles, Lamu, Mombassa, Zanzibar, Daresalam, Mozambique, Beira, Chinde, Inhambane, Delagoa Bay, Natal, Cape Colony, Port Elizabeth, Orange Free State, and Transvaal, per extra s.s. Nowshera, will be closed at the General Post Office, at 7 a.m., on Sunday, the 17th instant.

Reported Theft of Buffaloes.—Swatsingh Durgahsingh, a Purdasee dealer in cattle, residing at Haines Road, reported to the police on Tuesday morning, the theft of three buffaloes, valued at Rs.150, from a stable belonging to his wife at Haines Road. Complainant found the buffaloes missing between the hours of 6 and 7 p.m. on the 9th instant. On a subsequent enquiry he learnt that one Achabarsing, a dealer in cattle, had purchased the three buffaloes for Rs. 95 from Ram Soonder Mathadin, a neighbour of the complainant, and despatched them the same evening up-country. The man Ram Soonder who committed the theft, is being sought for by the police.

A Charge Withdrawn.—The Registrar of Joint Stock Companies in Bombay appeared, to-day, before Mr. Sanders-Slater, Chief Presidency Magistrate, at the Esplanade Police Court, with reference to a summons taken out by him against Mr. Kaikhooshro Burjorjee Chowksey and four Hindu directors of the Jadowjee Raghowjee Press Company, Limited, charging them with failing to file balance sheets for the years 1893, 1894, and 1895 in the office of the Registrar and thereby committing a breach of section 74 of the Indian Companies' Act 6 of 1882. The Registrar reported that since the issue of process the defendants had filed the accounts in his office, and he did not, therefore, wish to proceed with the case. His Worship allowed the case to be withdrawn.

Bhavnagar News.—Our local correspondent writes:—The weather has taken a sudden change here. The days are rather warm, while the nights continue to be chill. A large number of pigeons are reported to be dying at Mahoowa, a town under Bhavnagar. This event may be the forerunner of plague, and consternation is caused amongst the residents there.—The State has imposed quarantine here on all arrivals from Bombay by sea. A dead body was found in the Ghadechi River on Saturday morning. It was in an advanced state of decomposition. The body was disposed of after the police enquiry was held. The money distributed amongst the Brahmins here on the occasion of the anniversary of the late Maharaja Sir Takhtsingji amounted to Rs. 32,500.

Sequel to the late Railway Disaster.—Before Mr. F. S. Taleyarkhan, Acting Fourth Presidency Magistrate, at the Mazagon Police Court, yesterday, Mr. Moonshee Husson Mahomed, Chief Constable, B. B. and C. I. Railway Police, charged one Dinmahomed Govind, aged twenty-six, a converted Mahomedan, having no occupation, with theft of a woolen blanket, valued at Rs. 4, the property of Mr. Ruttonji Sorabji Moonshee, manager, Great Western Hotel. On Friday night, the accused purchased a ticket at the Grant Road Station to go to Mahim by the down mixed train, which collided with the up mail on the following morning at the Golwad station. The accused did not get down at Mahim, but travelled as far as Golwad. After the collision, the injured passengers of the mail were detrained and their luggage was also taken out of the train and put on the platform. Taking advantage of the bustle and general confusion then prevailing, accused went up and picked up the blanket and commenced running into the fields. A railway policeman, who was watching the luggage, ran after the accused, and arrested him at a short distance from the station. The accused then stated that the blanket belonged to him, but on enquiry it was ascertained that the blanket belonged to Mr. Moonshee, who was one of the injured passengers of the mail, and who identified it as his own. His Worship convicted the accused and sentenced him to one month's rigorous imprisonment.

Death of Mr. Hari Gopal Padhye.—A correspondent writes:—The many friends of Mr. Hari Gopal Padhye will be sorry to learn of his untimely death at Narsingpur, C.P., where he was E. A. Commissioner. Born at Poona and educated at the Dekkan College, Mr. Padhye went to the C. Ps. as Professor of Sanskrit at the Government College, Saugor, now transferred to Jabalpur. Dr. Wilmot, the then D. P. I. in the provinces, had a very high opinion of him, and he soon brought Mr. Padhye to Nagpur, to act as Educational Inspector. Failing to induce Government to confirm him in the post, the learned Doctor, determined not to send him back to Saugor, created for him an entirely new office, that of Inspector of Indigenous Schools for the provinces. Mr. Padhye continued in high favour of succeeding the Director of Public Instruction; but as the prospects before him in the Educational Department were not very bright, Sir J. Morris, the Chief Commissioner, before retiring, had him transferred to the Revenue Department, in which he continued to serve almost till the hour of his death. Mr. Padhye was known to be one of the most conscientious workers in the Provinces. His scrupulous honesty, complete freedom from bias, and unflinching rectitude of purpose, had secured for him alike the confidence of Government and the people. Wherever he was stationed, parties and pleaders alike were eager to have their cases filed and heard in his court—so confirmed was his character as an exemplary judge. Naturally he wielded in the provinces a moral influence few could command. Student throughout his life, Mr. Padhye was an author too. His grammar of the Hindi language and the first and the highest Hindi Readers are the standard texts, prescribed by Government for the schools in the C. Ps. Exemplary in his private life, Mr. Padhye was a staunch social reformer, having been the first President of the Widow Remarriage Association, Poona. Ostracism had no terrors for him.

PROPOSED LEVY OF FEES ON PRIVATE MARKETS.

In reference to this matter, Mr. Snow the Municipal Commissioner has written a report to the Corporation in which he states:—

After careful consideration of the question, I am unable to go beyond my former proposals in regard to levying fees on the private markets. Those proposals appear to me fair and reasonable and to fully meet the necessities of the case. I now forward, for the information of the Corporation, a statement showing the number of stalls, shops, &c., in connection with each private market, and the revenue derived therefrom, as well as the gross assessed value. I am unable to ascertain from the records the dates of the foundation of the majority of the private markets: It appears certain however that most of them were in existence upwards of thirty years ago. There is also nothing on record to determine the basis on which the present contributions were fixed. I would again draw attention to the enhanced scale of fees proposed in my former communication, as well as to the fact that a heavy charge has been made for the removal of refuse from which the owners of these markets were previously exempted.

As regards the general principle, I am in complete accord with the Corporation that only under the most exceptional circumstances should permission ever again be granted to establish a private market within the Municipal area, as not only is the general civic control over an important department nearly affecting the public health thereby impaired, but a valuable source of public revenue might also be alienated. It must be borne in mind, however, that these conditions did not exist, or at all events only in a very minor degree, at the time the private markets were established, and the public convenience and handsome revenue to be obtained from well-managed institutions like our large public markets had yet to be ascertained. It is not too much to say that the Municipality at the time the permission to set up these private markets was granted were not seriously contemplating the construction of public markets in the said localities, and the great advantage to the public and general convenience resulting especially to many thousands of the poorer classes during so many years must not be overlooked.

I therefore strongly deprecate the raising of revenue from the imposition of any further fees than those already proposed on a definite basis, and further consider that, even if the principle were sound, the revenue derived according to the statement I have submitted, would not justify such a course. I trust, therefore, that the Corporation will sanction my former proposals and decide the question on general grounds.

A budding commercial enterprise, but one that bids fair to bring some measure of agricultural prosperity in its train, is the production of lustrous white silken fibre from the common stinging nettle and its hardy relatives. The nettle will grow in damp poor land that will bear no other crop, and when once sown will spring up year after year without further planting or culture. The great thing is to remove the bark and squeeze out the resinous juice as soon as the stems are cut, by means of decorticating machines, and the long fibres are then ready for the mills, where they are boiled in alkali, bleached and spun on a wet long frame spinning-machine into white glistening silk, fit for weaving the wedding robe of a queen. In many of our colonies two, and even three, crops may be cut annually.

MUNICIPAL STANDING COMMITTEE.

Dr. Bhalchandra Krishna presided at the weekly meeting of the Municipal Standing Committee, held yesterday afternoon, when there were also present: Messrs. R. H. Vincent, T. W. Cuffe, O. V. Muller, Dr. N. N. Katrak, Dr. A. G. Viegas, Messrs. K. M. Shroff, K. N. Kabraji, and Abdalla M. Dharamsi.

THE WATER-SUPPLY AT KAMATIPURA.

The Municipal Secretary read memorandum dated 9th instant from the Commissioner, forwarding letter from the Acting Water Engineer reporting, with reference to the question of providing separate water taps, that the following works have been done at the places mentioned below:—(1) in Kamatipura district—(a) service pipe disconnected, No. 814, (b) new sluices fixed, No. 13, (c) standpipes erected as per list attached, No. 53; (2) in the Northbrook Garden, standpipes erected No. 3; (3) in Connaught Road, standpipes erected, No. 2; (4) near Ghinchpokli station, standpipes erected, No. 4. The paving round the standpipes will be completed within a few days. The cost of these works will be reported on the 15th instant.

Mr. Kabraji asked if this was a right step, because cutting off the service pipes would encourage the filthy and dirty habits of the people living in that locality.

Mr. Vincent remarked that in case of a murder, burglary, or some other crime, he had the occasion to enter houses and small rooms in Kamatipura, and they were so dirty and damp that he had to come out and vomit immediately. People of the locality allowed water to ooze, and the rooms and the large area of ground around them were rendered so damp that the place became an abode of disease germs.

The Municipal Commissioner said that, after full consideration and complete deliberation on the subject, the authorities were advised to cut off the service pipes.

Dr. Viegas reminded the Committee that this action on the part of the Executive was based on the opinion of the Committee of scientific experts.

Mr. Kabraji thought that water was a necessity during the time of plague and people must not be deprived of the source, of cleanliness.

The Hon. Mr. Dharamsi observed that twenty years ago, when there were no water-connections in Bombay, women of the poor and even middle classes took the trouble of going to a distance of over a mile to fetch water from wells. The poor class of people he did not think had any ground to complain since water was supplied to them by water-taps only ten paces from their houses, besides the present step was taken for the benefit of the health of the city in general.

Mr. Cuffe was of opinion that in such time anything that was found to be insanitary should be stopped and abolished at once. The Executive was perfectly justified in taking the measure since the scientific opinion demanded it.

Mr. Shroff enquired if the service pipes in Kamatipura were all cut off, or whether they were cut off in regard to particular houses only.

The Municipal Commissioner said that bubonic fever was raging in all the lanes of Kamatipura, and therefore the whole of the connections were cut off in that district.

Dr. Katrak remarked that the people living in Kamatipura were so dirty and of such filthy habits that they did not care to wash there face, much less to flush the *nanis* of their rooms, and hence those places had become a home for the germs. When the pipes were cut off he suggested that the authorities should watch, and say if the *nanis* became an additional cause of danger, and, if so, the *nanis* must be abolished also. He had nothing to say against the step taken by the Executive, which he admitted was the best under the circumstances.

Professor Muller said that the scrapings of the place rendered damp by the water allowed to trickle continually from the water-pipe were found to contain fever bacillus and the suni flud substance found there when injected into the body of animals caused death.

The Chairman said that he himself had seen those places, and was of opinion that the careless way of allowing water to trickle had made the place very unhealthy.

After some discussion the letter was recorded.

THE ANTI-TOXIC SERUM.

With reference to their resolution regarding the serum for bubonic plague the following letter from the Commissioner was forwarded to the Corporation:—

To the Municipal Secretary.

Sir,—In reply to Standing Committee's resolution, dated 30th December last, I have the honour to inform you that Dr. Yersin has proceeded direct to Indo-China and has no serum with him, but hopes to have some ready in February. I have asked the French Consul to kindly keep me informed on this head. Professor Haffkine is daily working in the same direction, and reasonable hopes may be entertained of his success, in which case a sufficient supply of anti-toxic serum will ere long be available on the spot.—I have, &c.,

P. C. H. Snow,
Municipal Commissioner.

DISINFECTANTS DURING THE PLAGUE.

The Commissioner forwarded a letter to the Committee stating that he had received a communication from the India Office regarding the disinfectant known as crudedry napthaline. It is known to be the strongest disinfectant going, and most suitable for sprinkling about in gullies, carts, and other places. This disinfectant used to cost the prohibitive price of £40 a ton, but can now be obtained for £3 a ton, according to his information, plus the cost of barrels, sacking, &c., and shipment. It is also stated that this disinfectant is an active air purifier. It is manufactured by Messrs. Burt, Boulton, and Hayward, of Cannon Street, E. C. The Commissioner has ordered out 20 tons of it direct from the manufacturers.

It was resolved that the letter be recorded, and that the cost of the disinfectant in question be debited to the grants sanctioned by the Corporation for the special measures adopted for the suppression of the bubonic plague.

DR. SURVEYOR'S SERVICE.

The Commissioner in his letter informed the Committee that he had ascertained that Dr. Surveyor was not under the orders of Government, and that there was therefore no obstacle to his being appointed by the Corporation as a salaried assistant to Professor Haffkine. The Commissioner conferred with the latter gentleman and Dr. Surveyor, and considered that the proper salary to offer would be Rs. 500 per mensem, plus Rs. 50 for conveyance allowance, which Dr. Surveyor would be satisfied with. It was most important that Professor Haffkine should obtain relief and assistance in the prosecution of his important operations, and he therefore requested sanction to the above proposal. The amount to be debited to the bubonic grants made, and to be made hereafter. Professor Haffkine would also require the services of three veterinary assistants, and the Commissioner had desired him to send in particulars as regarded their pay after consultation with Veterinary Major Mills.

The Committee accorded the necessary sanction.

RINDERPEST AMONG MUNICIPAL BULLOCKS.

The Municipal Commissioner asked the Committee's sanction to the writing off of the sum of Rs. 85, being the book-value of the bullocks from the live-stock return of Victoria Gardens.

The Chairman observed that this was a most important subject, as the death of the bullocks was caused by rinderpest.

Dr. Viegas remarked that seven other bullocks of the Health Department were reported to have died of the same disease, and the Commissioner must be requested to inform the Committee the date of the purchase of the animals, and whether the suffering bullocks were segregated or not.

The matter was referred to the Commissioner, with a request for the information required.

THE EXODUS OF PLAGUE-STRICKEN MEN FROM BOMBAY.

Professor Muller, referring to the prevalence of the plague in Bombay, drew the attention of the Standing Committee to the fact that, though the railway medical staff examined men travelling by the railways, and people suffering from the disease were prevented leaving in bullock-carts at the Mahim causeway, no precautions appeared to have been taken at the Coorla causeway. He had seen the other day a string of seventy carts passing over that causeway.

Mr. Vincent: I have seen 150 (A laugh.)

Professor Muller, continuing, said that he saw those carts filled with people going over the causeway, but there is no examination of any sort made to ascertain if people suffering or dying from the plague were leaving Bombay from that causeway, and that those who died were being deposited on the way between Bombay and Satara, whether those carts generally proceeded. The little villages whether these men died were not disinfected by the authorities and there was thus the great danger of spreading the disease all along the route, and from thence to other parts of the country. He was of opinion that, as it was an important matter affecting the health of the city, and for the matter of that the whole country, early steps should be taken by the authorities concerned.

The Hon. Mr. Dharmsi agreeing with the last speaker, said that the railway stations ought to be better guarded than as at present, more hospital assisants being apointed for the purpose of keeping a sharp look-out that no plague-stricken men were smuggled out of the city. The present staff of hospital assistants was not able to cope with the large exodus of people, who were leaving by the two lines of railways in the city. He could state from his personal observation that these hospital assistants were not provided with lamps to see at night if plague-stricken men were in the carriages, the only light to enable them to detect the sick emigrants being the dim lamps burning in the carriages. He was travelling on Friday night last with Dr. Bhalchandra on the G. I. P. Railway, and from enquiries they made, and what they had themselves seen, they learnt that the more important stations were not only not provided with a sufficient number of hospital assistants, but the one or two medical men who were doing duty there were not provided with lamps to enable them to find out if sick men travelled over the line. This was important, and he hoped that the Municipal Commissioner would communicate with the Agents of the two companies in the matter. There were more that 1,500 men at the Victoria Terminus on the night in question, there being no fewer than twenty third-class carriages attached to the train and considering the rush made by so many men at one time, it was indeed very difficult for one man to keep a sharp-look out as he was expected to do. It was a well-known fact many people who were actually suffering from the plague and were in an advanced stage of the disease travelled over the railway lines, and it was only recently that two men who had died from the malady had to be removed from the train at Thana.

The Municipal Commissioner said that he had already been in communication with the railway authorities on the subject.

Mr. Dharamsi said that the Municipal Commissioner might write to Government on the subject. There were only four hospital assistans, two or whom worked during the day and two at night. One medical man at each of these big stations was not sufficient to keep a good look-out for which he was appointed.

Dr. Katrak said that he was informed that three Banias who were sick and dying were removed to a place which was not affected, endangering the lives of those who had left the city for a healthier locality. One case had recently occurred at Andheri, where a Bania affected with the disease had been removed from Bombay and he died there. If sick people were smugglud into such a healthy locality as Andheri, where were the people of Bombay to go to? He would suggest that the railway might be asked to depute a medical man at Santa Cruz and Andheri, to see that none of the sick train led by the line, and much less go down at any of these stations.

Mr. Vincent said he was perfectly aware of the danger brought to their notice by Professor Muller and Mr. Dharmaj, but members did not appear to be conversant with the difficulty men appointed to keep such a look-out had to encounter. If the look-out man were to go up to these carts, which were generally covered with a piece of cloth, he would be told that they contained purdah ladies, and they could not be seen and much less examined, if they were indisposed by that malady.

Mr. Shroff: There are many lady doctores in Bombay, and they might be usefully employed to examine the purdah ladies should they travel by carts. (A laugh).

Mr. Dharamsi said that surely some of these carts were covered with a piece of cloth, but no purdah ladies, for aught he knew, travelled by such carts. A friend of his recently saw a strong of 50 carts on one day, and of 75 carts on the day following, proceeding in the direction of Poona, but they were all full of Ghatees—males, females and children. It was extremely dangerous that Bombay should communicate the disease by such an indiscriminate exodus to other parts of the country. Government must be approached in the matter and requested to take some prompt and active measures. The Mahomedans generally did not leave the city so much as the Ghatees and other Hindoos. Hardly a few thousand Mahomedans had left the city, from which about two or three lakhs were said to have emigrated.

Dr. Viegas: Quite so.

The Chairman, in supporting what had fallen from Mr. Dharamsi, said that he had seen strings of carts going in the direction of the ghauts at Khandalla. He had learnt that two of the men who had died from the plague on the road were buried near the tank in the vicinity of the Karli caves. He (the Chairman), on being apprised of the fact immediately told the patel of the place to burn the bodies. There ought to be a good look-out kept at Thana and Callian and particularly at Mumbra, where the line bifurcated.

Mr. Vincent said that he would draw the attention of Government to the matter, and the discussion then dropped.

THE MAHOMEDAN BURIAL-GROUNDS IN BOMBAY.

Mr. Cuffe, who has been appointed by Government a member of the Committee in the place of Mr. Rabsch, resigned, and who took his seat for the first time yesterday, asked the Commissioner to be good enough to inform the Committee of the condition of some of the burial-grounds in Bombay, which were said to be over-crowded and were such as to endanger the lives of the inhabitants of the city. Probably the reports were largely exaggerated, but there could be no manner of doubt that if the Commissioner were to give them an idea as to the action he was likely to take into the matter, it would much allay the anxiety felt by the public. They knew that the matter has been engaging the attention of the Muncipality and that some changes were in contemplation, but as the general public did not appear to have any knowledge of the same, a statement made by the Commissioner would much ally public anxiety in the matter.

The Municipal Commissioner said that the question of closing the over-crowed burial-grounds was an important matter. They were shortly going to lay the ground at Tank Bunder open for burial purposes.

Mr. Cuffe said that the public felt very apprehensive about two over-crowded burial-grounds. The sooner some arrangements were made for clossing them up the better for the health of the city.

PURCHASE OF DISINFECTANTS.

The Municipal Commissioner reported that he had authorized the Executive Health Officer to purchase, by wire, 75 casks of Calverts' carbolic acid powder, 15 per cent., each weighing 200 lbs., net, through Messrs. John Fleming and Co., at the rate of Rs. 17 per cask. The cost, Rs. 1,275 would be defrayed out of the bubonic grants.

In connection with this subject, Mr. Vincent said that a firm had been advertising largely for the sale of chloride of lime, and he having sent for a cask containing 5 cwts. of that disinfectant, it was found that it was simple chalk.

Mr. Dharamsi said that he had also sent for a cask of the same disinfectant, and as he found that it was nothing but chalk he returned the cask to the party from whom he had purchased the same.

Dr. Katrak said that this was an important matter, since the public might purchase the article under the impression that it was a good disinfectant, and when used it would not serve the purpose for which it was required.

Mr. Dharamsi said that he was aware that Mr. Gordhandas Khatao had purchased ten tons of the genuine stuff, which he had ordered out for the use of his own mill, and which he was willing to sell for cost price. He did not care to advertise it, but if anybody were to apply to him to sell him the article, he would do so at cost price.

After transaction of some more business the committee adjourned.

THE SLAUGHTER HOUSES AT BANDORA.

In response to a request from the Corporation Mr. Snow the Municipal Commissioner has submitted a report in which he expresses the opinion that it seems most undesirale and imprudent to attempt moving the Slaughter Houses from their present position, as not only can no site as good be obtained closer to Bombay, but the expense involved in any such scheme would be out of all proportion to the benefits to be gained. The condition of the Slaughter Houses is somewhat unsatisfactory, especially during the moonsoon, but it is practicable to remedy the defects to a great extent though not without considerable outlay. The letter proceeds:

The following are the measures which, I consider, should be adopted after consultation with the Superintendent of Markets and the Executive Engineer:—

1. The extension of the Beef Slaughter House which has been included in the Budget for the ensuing year.
2. Filling in the quarry hole near the station.
3. Removal of and rebuilding of stables and huts where the contractors keep their bullocks. These erections belong to the contractors, and therefore concern them principally.
4. Raising the fair ground: About 3 feet of filling will probably suffice for this purpose while metalling may not prove to be immediately necessary. The cost of this bit of work would be roughly Rs. 50,000.
5. Two large additional sheds for harbouring sheep and goats at a cost of about Rs. 7,000.
6. Putting the cattle inspection sheds in proper order; probable cost about Rs. 3,500.
7. Repairing the flooring of the meat-van bullocks stables—a small item.
8. Removal and rebuilding of the five chawls occupied by butchers and sepoys. These are all old and require renewal; they contain respectively 52, 52, 34, 20, and 18 rooms. One of these chawls is in a worse state than the others, and should be taken in hand first. As the work is an expensive one, the remainder can be taken in hand year by year as funds are available. The cost of rebuilding one of the argest of these chawls would probably be not less than Rs. 35,000.

It will thus be seen that to put the Slaughter Houses and their appurtenances in thorough order will require a sum exceeding two lakhs of rupees, and it may be gathered therefrom what an enormous cost would be involved in removing to a new site and commencing a fresh, even supposing such a site can be found. In view of the very heavy expenditure involved on the Corporation lately, I have hesitated to press these works, but I am of opinion that they should be proceeded with as opportunity allows.

The *Oratava*, the Orient liner, which capsized in the dock whilst coaling, was floated after a few days by the simple process of stopping up the hatches, closing, the portholes and setting all the available pumps at work. It is understood that the water is practically all out of the hold. The dead bodies of the five labourers were recovered from the ballast tanks beneath the engine-room. The vessel have now been restored to an even keel, and steam is kept up ready for her removal to the dry dock, where she will be throughly over hauled.

HIGH COURT.—APPELLATE SIDE.

(Before the Hon. Mr. Justice Jardine, and the Hon. Mr. Justice Ranade.)

A NEW TRIAL ORDERED IN A MURDER CASE.

IMPERATRIX vs. MALLYA BIN LUXMYA.

This was a reference to the court by Mr. F. C. O. Beaman, Sessons Judge of Belgaum. The prisoner was charged with murder, but the jury found him not guilty. The Sessions Judge disagreed with the verdict and referred the case for the orders of the High Court. Mr. N. G. Chandawarker appeared for the accused, and the Government Pleader for the Crown.

The prisoner was charged with the murder of his step-mother Yelli on the 12th October last. The prisoner, in his confession, stated that he knew the deceased, who was his stepmother. She died one morning in the field of one Ramappa, where he took her for the purpose of getting ears of corn. When they reached the field, he struck her three blows on the neck with his scythe, and after the third blow she died. He took away her ornaments, and at first buried them in his house. He also buried the body in the field by throwing earth on it, and went home. When his father inquired about her, he told him she had gone to get fuel. She did not give him enough of food, and he was extremely vexed with her on that account. His mother resided at Aursang, as she was driven out by his father owing to the quarrels between her and the deceased. Although she went away, he had preferred to live with his father and the deceased. He had shown to the chief constable the spot where the ornaments were buried, and had made them over to him with the scythe.

The Sessions Judge, in charging the jury, said the charge of culpable homicide need not be laid. The only allegation ever made to bring the offence under the lesser charge was, that the deceased used to give the accused insufficient food during the last six months. That would not be grave and sudden provocation in the eye of the law, neither was there the slightest evidence of it. If, therefore, the jury found that the accused killed the deceased, the offence would be murder punishable with death. As to the identity of the remains, it depended mainly upon the clothing found with them, and upon the accused's confessions too. If the jury were satisfied that the bones were Yelli's, they would no doubt hold that she was killed. On the other point who killed the accused, the most important evidence, Mr. Beaman said, was the confession of the accused, which was repeated before the committing magistrate. The confession was strongly corroborated by the production of the sickle and the ornaments by the accused himself.

The jury unanimously found that the woman was killed, but they found the prisoner not guilty.

Mr. Beaman, in making the order of reference, said he was totally unable to agree with the verdict, nor did he see how such a verdict could possibly become to on the evidence. On the evidence the case appeared to him to be as plainly made out as any case could be. In his opinion, the verdict ought to have been guilty, and the sentence death.

Mr. Justice Jardine, in giving the court's decision on the reference, said. We are of opinion that the jury should have been required to return a verdict under section 303 of the Code of Criminal Procedure on both heads of charge, namely, murder and culpable Homicide. (See Queen-Empress vs. Devjee, I. L. R., 20 Bom. 215.) We think also that, in a case of such importance, the evidence of the medical witness as to the bones found being those of a woman, should be taken in full, and in the Court of Session. We point out also that there is no evidence what bones those were which that hospital assistant examined; or that they were found near the articles said to have been worn by the deceased woman. Considering the difficulties which attend retracted confessions (see Queen-Empress vs. Dada Ana, 15 Bom. 452,461) we think the court should, in this case, take evidence of the circumstances attending these confessions, so that the jury may know in whose custody the prisoner was, and other matters of the same kind. The magistrate's evidence should, if possible, be taken. The evidence relating to the discovery of ornaments should be taken in fuller detail; and we think the prisoner's attention might have been drawn to it by the Sessions Judge by a question so framed as to enable him to explain the matter, as the inference to be drawn from the discovery is an important one. For these reasons, the court directs a new trial on the same heads of charge.

A REFERENCE FROM UGANDA.

IMPERATRIX vs. JUMABHAI FAKIR AND ANOTHER.

This case, which was noticed in these columns some months ago, again came on for further argument. The accused had been convicted and sentenced for having imported gunpowder into the territory of an African King with the intention that it should be used in warfare against the British Government. Mr. Young appeared for the accused, and the Hon. Mr. Lang, Advocate-General, appeared for the Crown. The prisoners had been sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for three and two years, respectively. When the case was last before the court in March 1896, their lordships referred the matter back to Uganda for further information. Mr. Berkley, who had passed sentence, had replied that the accused supplied the powder to the King's people who fired on a British patrol at Mackabinilla station, and had engaged in the slave trade, although there was no evidence to show that they actually took part in the firing. The matter has not concluded.

THE HUGHLY RIVER.

The Calcutta commercial correspondent of the *Pioneer* writes:—The long expected report of Mr. Vernon Harcourt on the state of the Hughly River has arrived and was laid before the Commissioners last Monday. It is so voluminous that it requires considerable time and care to master its contents; and it has arrived so late in the day as, I suspect, to be practically worthless.

It would be interesting to know under what sanction the Port Commissioners are carrying on the works which are now proceeding both at the Jettiee and the Docks. A gentleman whom I should describe as "practical and well-informed" writes to me, drawing attention to the fact that under the Port Trust Act, Section 53:—

(1) Every contract and agreement by, or on behalf of, the Commissioners which shall exceed the sum of one thousand rupees shall be in writing and signed by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman, and by two other Commissioners; and shall be sealed with the common seal of the Commissioners.

(2) No contract nor agreement not executed as in this Section is provided shall be binding on the Commissionere.

From all I can gather these Rules have been either overlooked or ignored by the Port Commissioners.

In the first place. The cost of the gigantic excavations at Kidderpur, and of the godowns erected inside the Jeety enclosura, with the purchase of a second-hand tug, will assuredly exceed two lakhs of rupees. Under the Act I have mentioned, it is therefore absolutely necessary that plans and estimates should be approved by the Governor-General-in-Council, and it is not within the power of the Local Government to sanction the expenditure until such approval has been obtained from the Governor-General-in-Council. Secondly, according to clause 50, a plan and estimate must have the approval of the Commissioners in meeting, prior to such being submitted for sanction. Such plan and estimate relating to the excavations at Kidderpur and the erection of godowns at the Jetties, have never been laid before the Commissioners in meeting. It must be evident that in arranging for this work being carried out, for which a large expenditure has already been incurad, a contract must have been entered into for such work. By whom then has this contract been signed? Clause 53 states that the Chairman or Vice-Chairman and two other Commissioners must do this and that "no contract nor agreement not executed as in this section is prvided shall be binding on the Commissioners." Surely it is time that the Port Commissioners enlightened the public on these matters. It is to be presumed that the Calcutta Port Act III of 1890 was introducedewith a view of guiding and controlling the action of the Port Commissioners, and I do not find that any subsequent Act has been passed rescending the clauses I have named.

The Committee of the Chamber of Commerce have recently been requested to obtain answers to some very important questions relating to the Dock scheme, and it is to be hoped that they will do their duty and obtain the information required, and when obtained, that they will take an early opportunity of laying it before the members. In the meantime, however, there appears to be considerable delay in communicating with the Port Trust. It should not be a difficult matter for the Port Commissioners to state by whose authority an enormous expenditure has been incurred, particularly when such Rules as I have quoted were specially framed in their interests. It is perfectly clear that the Commissioners have no power to act of themselves in this matter, nor has the Local Government power to sanction the expenditure without reference to a higher authority, and it is well-known that the Governor-General-in-Council has not sanctioned it, as no assurance has yet been given that the mercantile community approves of the scheme. If the Chairman, or Vice-Chairman, or any individual members of the Port Trust have taken upon themselves to sanction the work already done in connection with the proposed new scheme, all I can say is that I wish them a happy New Year."

Meantime, add the correspondent, I see from a notice issued by the Local Rivers Companies that "they are at present negotiating with the Port Commissioners with the object of securing a grant and godown below the bridge in the neighbourhood of the Jetties. It will be most convenient for their constituents." Now we have always been given to understand that there was no room for any extension of the Jetties and yet apparently the Port Commissioners are able to find space for the inland steamers; which space, as it seems to me, might be devoted to the foreign trade of the Port, in fact, there are not wanting those who believe that an extra jetty might be erected, and then if these steamers were discharged with proper despatch, there should be room for all the trade of the Port.

BOMBAY PORT TRUST.

The following are Excerpts from the Proceedings of a meeting of the Trustees of the Port of Bombay, held on the 5th January:—

Read letter from the Engineer, dated 22nd October 1893, reporting that the Foreman's quarters now require such extensive repairs as to amount practically to renewal, and requesting instructions. Read memorandum from the Engineer, dated 28th November 1896, forwarding a letter from Mr. M. T. Mullen, Workshop Foreman, dated 27th November 1896, in which he represents that his quarters are unhealthy, and suggests that they may be rebuilt in an improved style or that he may be granted an allowance for house-rent to enable him to secure a suitable house elsewhere. Read proceedings of the Finance and Establishment Committee, saying that the building referred to, No. 92, is on the west side of the Frere Road near the firewood siding compound; that it is an old building erected at the time of the Government Reclamation Works in 1838 and shifted from place to place three times; that it is built of junglewood; that it has for some years past been utilised as residential quarters for the Workshop Foreman and the Night Inspector, Prince's and Victoria Docks, who each pay Rs. 15 per mensem as rent: recommending that the building which is now reported to be past repair be sold by auction for removal and that, as arranged in 1891, the two men be given a house-rent of Rs. 15 each and they should arrange for their own quarters, the Foreman being required to find such within the same distance from the Workshops at Clerk Bunder: observing that it is not necessary that either of these men should live near the Docks, and it is quite unnecessary for the Trustees to build new quarters for them, and that enough has been done for the present in providing, as the Trustees have done, quarters for the Docks Superindent, Dock Master, Pumping Foreman, and Fire Brigade Establishment.

Resolution.—The recommendations of the Finance and Establishment Committee are approved.

Resolution.—The Engineer's recommedations are approved.

Read memorandum from the Docks Superintendent, dated 31st December 1896, submitting a representation made on behalf of the outdoor staff at the Docks and of the hamallage contractors for a reduction of their working hours; stating that many of them have gone to live outside the city to avoid the plague and are unable to attend so early as 6-30 a.m., except at great inconvenience; and recommending that they be allowed an hour's grace in the morning by commencing work at 7-30 a.m. instead of at 6-30 a.m.

Resolution.—Government should be asked, under the provisions of clause 2, section 74, of the Port Trust Act, to cancel the regulation comprised in the two first lines of Dock By-law 85. With effect from the date of such order of Government, the Trustees are pleased to direct that the working hours at the Docks shall be from 7-30 a.m., to sunset (except on holidays and Sundays) during the prevalence of the present sickness or until further orders. The usual intervals for both breakfast and dinner should be allowed. The Trustees under the provisions of Dock By-law 86 are also pleased to fix the extra rate for night work at Rs. 200 per night or portion of a night pending further orders, subject to refund of the difference between that charge and the ordinary rate with the special sanction of the Trustees on proof of the circumstances being really urgent and unavoidably so.

Read letter from the Medical Officer in charge of the Trustees hospital at Santa Cruz Estate, dated 2nd January 1897, reporting that the Hospital Assistant has deserted; that he has to depend much on the ward boy engaged on Rs. 20 a month from 1st instant; that one case of plague was admitted on the 31st December, for whom he had to do everything himself single-handed; that Mr. Curramsey pays visits to the hospital and promptly supplies the necessary articles; that every morning he (the Medical Officer) attends at the Docks and then goes to the hospital which he visits again in the evening: and suggesting that the Surgeon-General be applied to for an Hospital Assistant. Read letter from the same, dated 3rd January 1897, reporting that the man admitted on the 31st ultimo is progressing favorably; and that there have been three outdoor patients up to date. The Chairman said that an application has been made to the Surgeon-General for an Hospital Assistant.

Resolution.—To be recorded.

Read letter from the Engineer, requesting sanction to occupy free of rent, the east block of the Dhall Market on Mullet Bunder as a temporary dwelling for scavengers employed on the Elphinstone Estate and in the Docks, and also a small area of ground on the plot opposite to it, on which to erect cooking places and temporary latrines; as also to occupy, rent free, the ground on the east side of the sidings into Prince's Dock for the erection of temporary huts for the sweepers employed in the same localities forwarding a plan showing the building and ground required, and saying that the Traffic Manager has no objection to his proposals.

Resolution.—Approved.

The following were amongst the papers laid on the table:—

PILOTAGE STATEMENT.

	For week ending 1st Jan. 1897.	Total from 1st April to 1st Jan. 1897.	For week ending 1st Jan. 1896.	Total from 1st April to 1st Jan. 1896.
Vessels piloted into harbour..	15	717	16	739
" " out of harbour	16	723	17	745
" transported	8	479	10	417
" attended to	..	62	3	52
" warped.....	1	43	1	76

THE WEATHER.

OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 8 A.M. ON WEDNESDAY, THE 13TH OF JANUARY, 1897.

SUMMARY.

Pressure has decreased briskly to rapidly in Sind, and at Bhuj, Ghudechi, Khandwa, Bombay, Mangalore, Calicut, Cochin and Secunderabad. Readings are highest in Rajputana, and lowest in Sind. Gradients are very steep in Sind, and moderate to slight elsewhere. Winds are cyclonic in Sind, and the force has been moderate to light. This morning the wind velocity was 10 miles an hour at Bhuj and 8 at Karachi and Colombo. The maximum temperature is in very large excess of the normal at Allahabad, Jhansi, Raipur and Secunderabad, and the minimum largely so at Sirsa, Agra, Allahabad, Jhansi, Karachi, Bhuj, Saugor, Raipur and Secunderabad. The highest temperature in the shade was 91° at Cuddapah, and the lowest 42° at Jacobabad. Humidity changes are unimportant, and the skies are cloudy to overcast in Sind, the Madras Presidency, and Mysore, and at Lahore, Agra, Ajmere, Dessa, Bhuj, Raipur and Nagpur. A few drops of rain are reported from Karachi. A large depression exists to the north-westwards of Sind, and the abnormal deficiency at its centre somewhere to the north-west of Jacobabad exceeds one-fourth of an inch. The winds around the depression are cyclonic, and the weather in the Persian Gulf and also in Sind is squally, rainy and very unsettled. This disturbance affects the weather in the Punjab, Rajputana, Cutch and on the Kathiawar Coast, where it will become more or less cloudy. Over the rest of the country it is generally fine.

W. C. NIGEL JONES,
Acting Meteorological Reporter for Western India.

(By Telegraph)

SIMLA, Jan. 13.

Wednesday: The barometer has fallen briskly over the west of peninsula and the Western Desert and rapidly at Quetta and Jacobabad. Elsewhere the barometric changes are slight. The depression which was approaching Quetta and Chaman yesterday, now lies over the Indus Valley and the barometer reads one quarter of an inch bellow normal at Multan, Jacobabad and Quetta. A well marked cyclonic circulation of winds prevails over North-West India and the east wind at Murree is rising, while snow has commenced this morning at Quetta and Chaman. These however are so far the only effects of the disturbance, and the only rainfall reported throughout India both on the hills and plains is 0·02 at Karachi. The weather is cloudy at some hill stations and in parts of Madras, but is nearly clear. The mean temperature is higher than usual in all the provinces, but particularly so in the Gangetic Plain, where Allahabad and Sutna report a mean temperature of nearly ten degrees above normal.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY, COLABA.

Bombay, 12th January, 1897.

Means of observations taken at 6 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Barometer corrected 32 deg. Fah. .... inches 29·948
Temperature of the Air .... degrees 75·4
Wet Bulb Thermometer .... 69·0
Dew Point .... 65·9
Relative humidity of Air .... ·728
Amount of cloudy sky (the whole sky clouded—10) .... 0·4
Maximum temperature of air (read at 8 a.m.) next day) .... degrees 80·3
Minimum do. do. (read at 8 a.m. .... 70·0
General Directions of wind*...N, NNE, NE, ENE, NW, NNW
Movement of Wind in 24 hours* .... miles 241

* From midnight to midnight.

N. A. F. MOOS,
Director, Government Observatory.

The British Museum reports the acquisition of a papyrus manuscript, probably dating from the century before Christ, found to contain the lost odes of the lyric poet Bacchylides, the contemporary of Pindar. The manuscript is fully written, but is much mutilated. There appear to be portions of fifteen or twenty poems, some intact.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

The s s Latona, 1,933 tons Captain J S Gardner, will sail to-day for Karachee with the same bottom cargo.

The s s Ileafoe, 373 tons, Nacoda, arrived in harbour on the 12th instant from Macculla (4th January) with a general cargo and 36 deck passengers.

The Massageries Maritimes Co's s s Persepolis, 947 tons, Captain Etienne, saile l yesterday for the Persian Gulf, with a general cargo and the following passengers:—Captain and Mrs Ducat Major Fagan and five deck.

The B I S N Co's s s Wardha, 2552 tons, Captain E R Robinson, R N R which arrived in harbour on the 12th instant from Calcutta (26th December) via coast ports, brought a general cargo and 10 deck passengers.

The Messageries Maritimes Co's s s Oceanien, 2,032 tons, Captain R Schmitz, sailed yesterday for China and Japan with a general cargo and the following passengers:—For Colombo—Mr Hayet, and Mr Gumbaud. For Batavia—Mr P Goldenberg and Mr L Dosagne For Saigon—Mr Berjand and Mr Coillard, For Haiphong—Mr Le Gendre and family and Mr Lyandet For Shangai—Mr and Mrs Wehrangs, and two daughters. For Singapore—Mr Frances Yernon. For Yokohama—Mr Walter, and 25 deck from Aden to Singapore.

VESSELS IN DOCKS.—January 13.

PRINCE'S DOCK.

Shd.	Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.*	Agents.
B	Clan Macrae	1651	Elliott			F M & Co
C	N·sari	912	Miller	R S Ports	14-1	B & P S N Co
D	Mozaffari	1176	Macalister	Not fixed		B & P S N Co
F	Ehrenfels	16.5	Ziegenmeyer	Karachi	16-1	G & Co
N	Hiroshima Maru	2031	Shimadzie	Japan	18-1	N Y Kaisha
P	Latona	1933	Gardiner	Karachi	14-1	K N & Co
Q	Nowshera	1338	Stone	Delagoa Bay	16-1	M M & Co

HARBOUR WALL.

Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.*	Agents.
Ponani	552	Cassum	Bhownuggur	12-1	S & Co
Mahanadi	547	Budroo			Do.
Kaveri	553	Cassum			Do.
Mahanadi	517	Budroo	Gulf Ports	11-1	Do.
Brahmani	521	Fakeera			Do

VICTORIA DOCK

Shd.	Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agents.
1	Hambleton	1951	Gillay	Elephant Point		Bombay Co
3	Arabia		Reid	Liverpool	20-1	W & A G & Co
5	Rohilla	2216	Cole	China	20-1	P and O S N Co
6	Shannon		Crewe	Aden	16-1	P & O Co
8	M Valerie	2611	Feiner	China	21-1	A L S N Co
9	Venus	2312	Margon	London		Bombay Co
11	Kapurthala	721	Robertson			M M & Co

HARBOUR WALL.

Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agents.
Dumra	762	Russel	Karachi	16-1	M M & Co

* Probable date of departure.

Time Ball drops at Prince's Dock at Noon or Greenwich meantime, 7h. 8m. 41·3s.

The Time Ball over the Clock Tower at the Bombay Castle continues to be dropped regularly at 1 p.m. of Colaba meantime, or 8h. 8m. 41·0 of Greenwich meantime.

ARRIVALS.

Jan.	Vessel.	Commander.	From.
12	Wardha s	Robinson	Calcutta, Dec 23.
	Ileafoe s	Nacoda	Macalla, Jan 4.
	Terra s	Peterson	Batoum, Dec 22.

DEPARTURES.

Jan.	Vessel.	Commander.	Destination.
13	Persepolis s	Etienne	Persian Gulf.
	Oceanien s	Schmitz	China and Japan.

The steamer Latona, Captain Gardner, obtained her port clearance yesterday for Karachi.

The following vessels entered for loading yesterday:—
Steamer Maria Valerie, for China and Japan.
" Courtfield, for Antwerp, Dunkirk, Havre, &c.
" Mobile, for Persian Gulf.

CALCUTTA.

ARRIVALS.

Jan.	Vessel.	Commander.	From.
8	Clan Forbes s	Bond	Galle, Dec 31.
	Leitrim s	Mogtastue	Cardiff, Oct 13.
9	Palamcotta s	Brown	Singapore, Dec 28.
	Shahzada s	Corran	Rangoon, Jan 3.
10	Fultala s	Blott	Bombay, Dec 31.

DEPARTURES.

Jan. 8.—Steamer Kasara, and a steamer numbers indisguishable, and ship Alcedo.
Jan. 9.—Steamer Tyr, and ship Bann.
Jan. 10.—Steamers Clan Macgregor and Tigor, ships County of Edinburgh and Milton Stuart.

DAILY IMPORTS.—January 13.

FROM GLASGOW.

City of London s—6 bales printing paper, Shaik Ahmed Shaik Dawood; 25 cases ginger wine, 25 cases whisky, D Dadabhoy.
Clan Graham s—50 cases whisky, Edulji Bezonjee.

FROM LIVERPOOL.

City of London s—3 cases earthenware, Mahomedally Dawoodjee.
Branksome Hall s—12 barrels chemicals, Adamjee Bhaijee.

FROM LONDON.

Venus s—10 cases chemicals, Shamjee Bhajee; 7 cases chemicals, V Amidas; 3 cases medicine, B Patwari and Co; 5 cases chemicals, Cooper and Co; 4 cases perfumed spirit, Oomar Hoossein and Co.
Shannon s—10 cases provision, and 2 cases confectionery, Essoofally Russooljee; 7 cases port and sherry, Jamsetjee Framjee; 3 cases provision, 17 cases medicine, 66 cases oilmenstores, and 17 cases vinegar, Essoofally Russooljee; 105 cases medicine, Heerjee Moojee and Co.
Carthage s—4 cases tobacco manufacturer, Essoofally Russooljee; 6 cases medicine, V Bhicka and Co; 8 cases medicine, B Patwari and Co.
Rohilla s—3 cases cheese, Edulji Nusserwanji; 89 cases oilmenstores, and 5 cases soap, D Dadabhoy; 3 cases playing card, H Abdoolally.

FROM BORDEAUX.

Shannon s—152 cases brandy, Jamsetjee Framjee.

FROM CHARENTE.

Branksome Hall s—60 cases brandy, Dr Dadabhoy, 12 cases brandy, D P Batha and Co.
Shannon s—25 cases brandy, Jamsetjee Framjee; 220 cases brandy, Nowrojee Ardeshir and Sons.

FROM HAMBURG.

Ehrenfels s—109 cases glassware, Sallemahomed Fazall.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.—January 12.

Whyte, Capt, 17th Bo Infantry, off furlough, from England.
Ballward, Major, Bo, R A, on leave, from Ahmedabad.
Farrant, Lt-Col, Ms, 11th M I, from leave, from England.

January 13.

Parkin, Capt, Ms, 1st Northampton, on leave, from Secunderabad.

DEPARTURES.—January 12.

Farrant, Lt-Col, Ms, 11th Ms I, on leave, to Poona.
Whyte, Capt, 17th Bo I, on leave, to Poona.

January 13.

Ballward, Major, Bo, R A, off leave, to Ahmedabad.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY COLONEL R. S. BROWN, V.D., COMMANDING B. V. R.

Bombay, 11th January, 1897.

1. There will be no parade on Saturday afternoon the 16th instant.
2. Leave of absence has been granted to 2nd Lieut. G. A. F. Berends, from 14th January to the 12th April 1897.

BOMBAY LIGHT HORSE.

1. All members wishing to qualify this season for proficiency will send in their names to Lieut. G. W. Moir.

By order,
C. MOSS, Captain,
Adjutant B. V. R.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY MAJOR G. W. ROUGHTON, COMMANDING B. V. A.

Bombay, 14th January 1897.

1. There will be 10-inch R. M. L. Gun drill at the Fort and Nesbit Road Head-quarters to-night at 8-45 p.m.
2. The Range Finding Class will meet at the Arsenal Gate on Friday morning at 7 sharp.
3. There will be class firing at Coorla on Friday morning. Recruits are particularly requested to attend. Trains leave Victoria Terminus at 6, 6-40, and 7-5 a.m. (Bombay time) and Byculla 12 minutes later in each case.
4. The Corps will parade on Saturday next the 16th instant on the Apollo Bunder at 4 p.m. sharp, and proceed by launch to Colaba to continue the Annual Gun Target Practice.

Dress—Drill Order, without Arms, Putties to be worn.

The launch will leave the Apollo Bunder as soon after 4 as possible.

Cyclist members of the Corps attending Gun Target Practice can parade at the Corps Club at 4-15 p.m. Lamps to be carried. Dress—Drill Order without Arms, Putties to be worn.

5. The competition for the Carter Cup (Inter Sub-divisional Carbine Competition) will take place on the morning of 31st January and on 2 other mornings, dates to be published hereafter. Nos. 1 who wish to avail themselves of the 1st date are requested to notify the same to the Head-quarter Office.
6. The Proficiency class will meet at the Byculla Head-quarters to-night.
7. Gunner F. J. Hought having died at Bombay on the 11th instant is struck off the strength of the Corps from that date.
8. Leave of absence in extention to the 31st January 1897 has been granted to Sergt. J. A. Geddes.

By order,
A. J. PEILE, Lieut. R. A.,
Adjutant B. V. A.

An explosion has occurred at Cromer's match factory in Aschaffenburg, destroying the entire building. Fifteen women and girls engaged in the main building are all dead, eight having been killed on the spot, and the remaining seven having since died in hospital. Of seven girls engaged in an adjoining room, one was fatally injured, and the others were more or less severely hurt. There were three men in the factory, of whom one was killed and the other two seriously injured. Not a single person in the main building escaped alive. The cause of the explosion has not yet been ascertained.

As Accession Day, when the Queen will have reigned 60 years, falls on Sunday, June 20th, it is intended by some Essex Volunteer regiments raised in the eastern suburbs of London, to have a great united parade for church attendance on that day, in which former members of regiments will join and march with the men now serving. Bishop Colchester has undertaken to preach on the occasion. It is anticipated that in many other parts of the country the day will be celebrated by Volunteers corps in the same manner.

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The Scale for these Advertisements is as follows. Not exceeding 3 lines, Re. 1; each succeeding line As. 8. No Trade Advertisements are admitted under this Scale.

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THE CATHEDRAL HIGH SCHOOLS (Boys' and Grils') will RE-OPEN, on MONDAY, January 18.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JAN. 13.

REUTER'S London financial telegram of last evening, reported a further advance of 1-16th per cent. in Consols, at 111¾, Indian Sterling Loan having been unchanged at 118. The market rates of discount were again reduced ¼th per cent., say to 3 per cent. both for short London Bills and six months' sight Indian Bank Paper. 3½ per cent. Rupee Securities were unchanged at £63 3/8. The price of Bar Silver in London remained at 29 11-16d. per oz.; but in New York the metal was 1-8 cent dearer, at 64⅞ cent per oz.; with demand Exchange on London half a cent higher, at 4·87½ dollars. The Exchange Banks' buying rate in London on India, at 30 days' sight remained at 1s. 3 1-16d. per rupee. French Rentes in Paris were unchanged at 102½; Paris Exchange on London was a shade lower, at fcs. 25·22½.

The quantity of Wheat afloat for the United Kingdom yesterday was 2,420,000 quarters, or 10,000 quarters less than was upon the water at the end of the previous week. Yellow Guzerat Rapeseed was quoted in London yesterday at 41¼s. per 416 lbs., sellers Canal, January-February shipment, to Havre, Antwerp, and Dunkirk, tone of the market easier.

A decline of 1-16d. took place yesterday in the price of spot Mid.-American Cotton in Liverpool at 4d. per lb.; and American Arrivals were partially 1-64d. to 1-32d. lower, the extreme quotations having been 3 61-64d. for January deliveries, and 3 15-16d. for May-June. The market closed steady; Surats dull; and Arrivals firm, the day's Sales having been 12,000 bales, inclusive of 100 East Indians. The day's Imports were 62,000 bales. The Manchester market was quiet.

A further advance of 1-16 cent took place yesterday in the price of ready Mid.-Uplands Cotton in New York, at 7 5-16 cents per lb.; and April Futures were 9 points higher, at 7·16 cents per lb. The day's Receipts at the U. S. Ports were 30,000 bales; and we give below our usual comparative figures showing the arrivals for the same time in the two preceding years:—

	1897.	1896.	1895.
Tuesday's Receipts ...	30,000	26,000	30,000
Three days' do.	81,000	61,000	108,000
Since 1st September......	5,189,000	3,705,000	5,598,000

A moderate amount of business for shippers' account had been reported in our local Cotton market to-day, say 1,500 bales consisting of 200 each of Chandoor, at Rs. 163; and Karanja, at Rs. 171; 500 Damergaum, at Rs. 168; 150 Dhulia, at Rs. 155; 100 each of Khangaum, at Rs. 162; and Akola at the same price; also a contract for 200 "Fine" Bhownuggur for January-February delivery, at Rs. 180; while the only purchases for Mill account reported to-day are 150 Pachora, at Rs. 157 per candy. The tone of the market has been steady, and prices are unchanged.

WHEAT and SEEDS.—The former market has been steady in tone with a moderate export business reported; but the latter has been dull with little doing for shippers' account. Prices in both markets, however, are unchanged.

The Receipts of Produce into Bombay yesterday were as follows:—

Cotton	2,937 bales.
Groundnuts	1,197 cwts.
Rice	9,759 ,,

FREIGHTS.—Business has been done to-day for February shipment to Antwerp, at 9s. to 9s. 6d. per ton, for Seeds, Wheat, and Cotton; but the market generally is very quiet.

EXCHANGE opened with a quiet but steady feeling this morning, at 1s. 3 11-32d. for Bank Telegraphic and Demand, and at 1s. 3 17-32d. for three months' sight Credits. Merchants' Bills continue very scarce, and business is altogether on a limited scale. We close steady as follows:—

Bank Bills on Demand	...1s. 3 11-32d.		per rupee.
Do. Telegraphic	...1s. 3 11-32d.		do.
Do. 3 months' sight	...1s. 3 13-32d.		do.
Credits	do.	...1s. 3 17-32d.	do.
Francs	do.	...1·63½	do.

GOVERNMENT PAPER opened at 99 5-8 for 3½ per Cents for cash, and 99 13-16 for the next settlement, and declined 1-16th from these rates; but beyond a few cash transactions hardly any business has transpired, the market having been bare of dealers, and the Account quotation nominal. Three per Cents have been quoted at 97, nominal.

SHARES.—This market also remains in a comparatively lifeless state; but the following few changes in our list have been reported to-day, say, a decline of Rs. 75 in Britannia Mills, Rs. 10 in Queen Mills, Rs. 25 each in Bombay United, Connaught, and Lukmidas; Rs. 20 in City of Bombay, Rs. 7 in Anglo-Indian, Rs. 5 each in Dhun, Imperial Cotton, and Leopold.

HIGH COURT.—JANUARY 14.

(Before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice CANDY.)

For Exparte Decree.

483-96—Little and Co—Hajee Mahomed Hajee Oosman vs Raghunath Makoond and others—Nanu and H.

Suits for Hearing and Final Disposal.

Postponed Long Causes.

358-96—Pestonji R and K—Nemidas Hemchand vs Mahomed Cassum bin Mahomed Misry—Brown and M

477-94—M H Khan—Loomba Rama and others vs Devideen Madarilal and another—In person for pauper.

641-91—Edgelow and G—The New Great Eastern S and W Co. Ld vs Damoderdas Sooonderdas and others—Little and Co and Mansuklal D and J.

513-95—Wadia and G—Samaldas Ruggonathdas vs Vullubhoy Khandbhoy—Payne G and S.

373-95—Mansuklal D and J—Ruttonbai vs Gopaljee Cullianjee and another—Pestonjee R and K.

541-91—Ardesir H and D—Bai Sakoobai alias Gopabai and others vs Sayajee Nagoo and others—J C Cama and Craigie L and Co.

442-96—K J Mantri—Pearji Khan Mahomed vs Hajee Esmail Goolam Mahomed—Chitnis M and M.

461-96—Thakurdas D and C—Kara Damjee and another vs Cowasjee Eduljee Patel—Mansuklal D and J.

474-96—Payne G and S—Abdool Rahim Mahomed Hoosein Junadhar vs Abdul Kurrim Mahomed Hoosein and others—Hiralal M and M.

557-96—Payne G and S—Essak Mahomed and another vs Sakurbai and others—Janardhan and A.

84-96—Chalk W and S—Keshow Bappoo vs Gopal Arjoon and others—Crawford B and C, and Chitnis M and M.

(Before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice STRACHEY.)

Suits for Hearing and Final Disposal.

Short Causes.

448-96—F P Pavri—Kessowjee Kullianjee vs Pragjee Dewjee and others—Muljee and R.

452-95—Bhaishanker and K—Gangaparsad Ramnarayan and others vs Burjorjee Bomonjee Jussawalla.

482-96—Payne G and S—Mahomed Nasrani and another vs Hajee Mahomed Khakiani.

487-96—Payne G and S—Gunga Narayan Kissondas and others vs Chunilal Hiralal and others—Bhaishanker and K.

573-96—In person—Jugjiwandas Vizbhookandas vs Archibald George Almond.

523-96—Ruttonjee Jamshedjee Subedar vs Annadrao Bhaskerjee and others.

793-96—Mansuklal, D and J—Cowasjee Eduljee Patel vs Abdool Karim Hajee Futeh Mahomed.

Postponed Long Causes.

50-96—Thakordas D and C—Rehemubhoy Habibbhoy vs Ahmedbhoy Habibbhoy—Manshuklal D and J—Part heard.

152-96—James Peace—Hurjeewan Ooker vs Purshotum Ooker—Payne G and S.

415-96—Matubhai and J—Charles Agnew Turner and others vs Sobhagchand Talakchand—Hiralal M and M.

203-95—Chalk W and S—Raugildas Tribhowandas vs Utumram Icharam and another—M H Khan.

422-95—Madowjee V—Meman Hajee Ali Jan Mahomed vs Narsoo Dhurmajee and another—Sorabji and J

518-95—Janardan and A—Heerjee Canjee vs Eduljee Wardhman and another—Payne G and S

69-96—Payne G and S—Shamjee Kandasji vs Muktabai and others—F P Pavri.

(Before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice B. TYABJEE.)

For further direction and costs on Commissioner's Report.

259-91—Bhaishunker and K—Jan Mahomed Cassum vs Hoossein bin Yuly Mahomed—J Dorabjee.

Suits for Hearing and Final Disposal.

Postponed Long Causes.

382-96—Tyabji D and C—Mahomedally Ebrahimjee vs Mahomedally Fidally—Payne G and S.

74-96—Sorabji and J—Sittaram Bhim Sonar vs Choonilal Fakir—Bland and N.

138-93—Thakordas D and C—Hajee Saboo Sidick and another v Ghanchi Dawood Mohamed—Wadia and G.

193-96—Ardesir H and D—Sewbhojanlal Sittaram and others vs Fakeerchand Beneehand and others—Wadia and G and Mirza H and R.

246-96—Ardeshir H and W—Khadijabibi and others vs Lokhmidas Rowji Khatao—Magonlal and R.

527-96—Little and Co—The New Pachora Manufacturing Co, Ld vs Bomanjee Sorabjee—Pestonjee R and K.

477-96—Mulji and R—Savitribai vs Juggonnath Ramji and others—J C Cama, D and F, and M and R.

THERMOMETER READINGS.

TUESDAY NIGHT.—JANUARY 12.

10 p.m.	73·4

WEDNESDAY.—JANUARY 13.

6 a.m.	70·0
10 a.m.	74·3
2 p.m.	76·3
6 p.m.	75·6

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTHS.

COLLETON—January 6, at Pachmarhi, Lady Colleton, of a daughter.

GOLDSMITH—January 9, at the Church Mission House Egmore, Madras, the wife of the Rev. H. D Goldsmith, Acting Secretary, C. M. S., of a daughter.

McDERMOTT—January 4, at Bina, Central Provinces, the wife of William H. McDermott, Post Master, Dharmsala, Punjab, of a son.

MACMILLAN—January 7, at Dereel Khan, Koppa, the wife of D. A. MacMillan, of a son.

MORGAN—At 5, Fairlie Place, Calcutta, the wife of D. Morgan, of a daughter.

VIPAN—January 7, at Meerut, the wife of W. M. Vipan, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

COOMBS—O'BRIEN—January 6, at St. John's Church, Meerut, by the Rev. Leonard Klaugh, Chaplain, Meerut, Archibald Hugh Coombs, Engineer, to Clara Beatrice O'Brien, second daughter of J. H. O'Brien, Esq., District Superintendent of Police (retired).

THOMSON—QUIN—January 4, at Bareilly, by the Rev. W. F. Thompson, Charles Thomson, Surgeon-Lieutenant, Indian Medical Service, to Emily Alice Wemyss, second daughter of Colonel T. J. Quin, Commissioner of Kumaon.

DEATHS.

ARROWSMITH—January 5, at Digha Ghat, Herbert George Minto, Arrowsmith, (late Manager of Barathar Saw Mills, Bamra), aged 39.

TARLETON—January 2, at Agra, of paralysis, Weldor Charles Tarleton, late Bombay Army, aged 76.

The Bombay Gazette

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1897.

THE proposal made by the Surgeon-General for India, and approved by a number of leading medical practitioners in the city, that the healthy residents of infected houses should be transferred to segregation camps, would no doubt have a very beneficial effect if the people—or as many of them as remain—could be persuaded to avail themselves of the opportunity of living in temporary quarters, provided by the Municipality, free of rent. But it is very open to question whether so long as the matter is left to the option of the people they will in large numbers take to the segregation camps, even though urged to do so by their leaders. We understand that it is not intended to resort to compulsion in the matter. A contemporary has made the mistake of supposing that coercive measures are contemplated, and that new powers will have to be obtained from the Legislature to enforce them. This is a twofold error. As we have said, there is no intention of enforcing the segregation of the healthy inhabitants, but provision will probably be made to facilitate and encourage temporary segregation. In any case no special legislation is necessary. The special powers granted to the Municipal Commissioner under Section 434 of the Municipal Act gives all the legislative authority required if compulsory segregations were contemplated, as has been rashly asserted. The section provides that "the Commissioner if he thinks the ordinary provisions of this Act or of any other law at the time in force are insufficient for the purpose, may, with the sanction of Government, take such special measures, and by public notice prescribe such temporary regulations to be observed by the public or by any persons or class of persons, as he shall deem necessary to prevent the outbreak of such disease, or the spread thereof." No legislation could possibly give greater discretion to the Commissioner, provided he has the sanction of Government than this. The section would fully cover any compulsory segregation, whether of the sick or the healthy, if it were deemed desirable to put it in force in the case of any particular building. The hypothetical suggestion of Professor Haffkine that Bombay should be completely isolated if compulsory evacuation be resorted to, stands in a different category, and no attempt could be made to carry into effect without special legislative sanction. M. Haffkine pointed out that the materials collected in Garhwal and Kumaon show that people from infected localities carry the plague to new places, that the outbreak of the disease in Karachi and Poona teaches the same lesson, and therefore any measure which would compel the inhabitants to leave infected localities should have, as necessary corollary, measures controlling their further movements. Otherwise compulsory evacuation will result in compulsory dissemination of the pestilence. If the second group of measures be impossible, the first must be considered dangerous. But the local and Supreme Governments have to consider the question from the point of view of practical statesmanship. On the one hand they are confronted with the enormous difficulties which stand in the way of the adoption of really effective measures for boycotting the citizens of Bombay until the epidemic has run its course. On the other hand, they are face to face with the serious danger of the spread of this dire malady throughout the length and breadth of the land. The number of cases reported to Government as occurring in the mofussil continue to be numerous. At Satara thirty-four attacks and thirty deaths were registered between the 4th and the 9th instant, and during the same period thirty three attacks and twenty-six deaths occurred at Poona. Seventy-one cases were registered at Tanna, and fatal attacks have been reported from Ahmedabad, Surat, Nassick, Baroda, Sholapur, Khandeish, Kaira, and Kathiawar.

The probability is, however, that the cases regarding which information reaches the Secretariat are only a small part of the whole. The registration of vital statistics in the villages to which the great majority of Bombay emigrants have fled is in the hands of the patels, who are for the most part entirely unacquainted with English, and of the karkoons, who have each a dozen villages or so to look after. As often as the stress of official work will permit, the vital statistics thus collected are tested by superior officers on tour. While this check may serve to prevent gross and continuous falsification, it by no means insures accuracy. The causes of death given in the mortuary returns in all parts of rural India are notoriously imperfect. This imperfection will probably be increased in regard to deaths from bubonic fever if the idea becomes prevalent, as it probably will, that villages where cases have occurred will receive a kind of attention from Government not desired by the inhabitants. The fact is that the disease is far more prevalent in the Presidency than is shown from the official statistics. There is, however, at present little or no evidence that the pestilence has attacked people up-country other than those who have fled from Bombay. Karachi is a remarkable exception to this rule. Whether it was taken from this city or not, the disease has found the conditions at the Sind capital so congenial that it has assumed a more virulent form than is the case here. From the 4th to the 11th instant there were 185 attacks and 170 deaths in the city, the proportion of fatal cases thus being much higher than in Bombay. The serious state of affairs at Karachi is naturally causing considerable misgiving at the smaller ports along the coast. No attempt has hitherto been made by the Native States having a coast line to impose quarantine, but we understand that the Bhownugger authorities now propose to set them the example. The Government of India, however, in their treaties with Native States reserve to themselves special rights over the foreshores and harbours in foreign territory under their protection. It is therefore open to question whether the Bhownugger durbar can impose quarantine upon vessels from any port in British India, without the sanction of Government.

FOUR hundred and fourteen millions of letters and other postal articles, not including money orders, passed through the Indian Post Office in the past year, an increase of twenty millions on the previous twelve months. Yet, notwithstanding the immensity of this business, the number of recorded complaints regarding the manner in which letters were dealt with made by the public was 15,428 against 9,710 in 1894-95. This large increase, however, is shown in Mr. A. U. Fanshawe's interesting annual report to be due mainly to a change in the system of record. Hitherto, the practice has been to record only complaints made direct or reported specially to heads of postal circles, but during the year under review complaints made to any postal official have been included in the record. The number of complaints that would have been recorded during the year under the old system was 10,367, which proportionately with the increase of business would show a decrease of complaints. The proportion of complaints held to be groundless was as large as 40·1 per cent., while that of cases in which the complaints were well-founded was 34·49 per cent. only. The remaining cases were either pending at the close of the year or were cases in which no definite conclusion could be arrived at. We doubt if the British Postmaster-General shows more satisfactory working of his department. There is one feature of the Indian reported, however, which is certainly unique, and shows that at all events in one section the Indian Post Office is in advance of the British—namely, that which has regard to the Value-Payable post. From 7,408 articles, valued at Rs. 1,32,169, sent by the post the first year it was instituted—1878-79—the figures have grown to 1,877,693, valued at Rs. 2,16,57,029 in the official year now reported upon. The advantages of the system and its appreciation by the public may be realised by a glance at the returns which show an ever-growing increase. This system has now been extended between India and Ceylon, and arrangements have since been made for exchanging fully insured parcels with the Straits Settlements, Hongkong, Egypt, and France. That portion of the report which deals with the working of the P. and O. contract shows that, although the mails are not due in Bombay until eight o'clock on the Monday morning of each week, they have on all occasions been delivered in advance of that time. Five times in the past year they were delivered on the previous Thursday, twice on the previous Friday, twenty-two times on Sunday, and on three occasions only was the mail received so late as daybreak of Monday—a highly creditable record, perhaps, but one which will be held by most people to justify Government in insisting on a Saturday delivery at latest. The shortest time occupied in transit between London and Bombay was 12 days, 11 hours and 35 minutes, and from Bombay to London 12 days and 20 minutes.

IT is remarkable, in connection with foreign correspondence, that as regards the mails exchanged with the United Kingdom, there was an increase in the number of newspapers and packets sent home, but in all other respects the traffic decreased. The reduction in the number of homeward letters and post-cards was due to a considerable falling off in the number of soldiers' and seamen's privileged letters posted for despatch to the United Kingdom. In point of fact the total number of these letters was about 170,000 less than the number posted in the previous year. This result, which is believed to have been due to the equivalent of the statutary penny rate being raised from 9 pies to one anna in April, 1895, and also perhaps in some measure to the Chitral Campaign, more than neutralised the increase that took place in the number of letters subject to the ordinary rates of postage. It is more difficult to account for the decrease in the mails sent out from home. The falling off in the number of letters and post-cards received from the United Kingdom was not very noticeable; but the number of newspapers and packets was nearly three-quarters of a million less than in the preceding year. It has to be remembered, however, that these figures are founded on an actual record of weight taken only twice a year, and the packet mail particularly is liable to great fluctuations owing to the inclusion or non-inclusion of large quantities of pamphlets or circulars. Through the medium of money orders the Post Office transmitted no less than Rs. 20,60,36,354, of which close on a hundred and fifty lakhs was by telegraphic money order. It is satisfactory to notice that in the handling of the enormous amount of correspondence recorded less than three hundred postal servants failed in their duty. Of these 151 offended so seriously as to call for legal proceedings and 148 others were departmentally punished. There were complaints, however, made which did not lead to punishments, and the Postmaster-General is led to observe that the necessity of verifying facts before complaining is not yet widely recognized even among the well-educated. One case brought to notice by the Postmaster-General of Madras he specially mentions as illustrating a not uncommon tendency to view the action of postal officials with unnecessary suspicion. A lady complained with great warmth that some manuscripts which had been returned to her by the editor of an English newspaper, enclosed in a thick envelope in order to secure privacy of the contents, had apparently been perused by some official of the Post Office who, she thought, had added insult to injury by writing the word "Take it to your heart" in red ink on the cover. When, however, the cover was called for and examined, it was evident at a glance that it not only bore no indication of having been tampered with, but also that the red ink remark on which the accusation against the Post Office was based was "No. 25—Take it to your beat"—(a note intended for the guidance of postmen), and not "Take it to your heart," as supposed. One instance occurred during the year in which a false complaint of destroying a registered letter was maliciously made against a branch postmaster, which led to the prosecution and punishment of the complainant.

OUR London correspondent, writing on Christmas Day, says: On all sides I hear sympathy expressed with the capital of Bombay in her present trouble, accompanied with the earnest hope that the outbreak will soon be a thing of the past. This week's article in the *Times* on Indian affairs is devoted entire[illegible] subject of the plague, and the wri[illegible] usefully points out that, although the latest news is not satisfactory, it need not create alarm, as fluctuations in the death-rate were to be expected. He also refers to the vigour with which any increase is met, and praises the authorities of our city for the manner in which they have sought to combat the disease. For the benefit of those who have not had opportunities of reading the accounts of the measures adopted, he observes that a process of cleansing has taken place on a scale which would have been beyond the powers of any city of medieval Europe, and which is still beyond the powers of any Asiatic city outside of British India. "It is with her water-works that Bombay is fighting the plague. The battle, although so far in her favour, cannot be considered as won while the shadow of famine hangs heavy over the land. Sanitation may, however, claim that she has up to the present brought within quite manageable compass a pestilence which has hitherto defied control, and which might have isolated Bombay from the rest of the world at a moment when it is of urgent importance that every port of India should be open." Although Calcutta has so far successfully warded off the plague, the writer, who speaks from experience, mentions that in some respects the health aspects of the City of Palaces contrast unfavourably with those of Bombay, or indeed with any other of the Great Indian cities. "Some of her poorest and most densely-crowded quarters lie below the level of the river, and the whole sewage has to be conveyed to a stagnant, brackish fen within a few miles of the suburbs." He also calls attention to the fact that her hospital accommodation is out of date, and strongly supports the proposed reconstruction of the Residency-General Hospital. A hint he gives to the Supreme Government with reference to this matter may possibly have an application in other provinces than that of Bengal, and may be commended to the careful consideration of the Financial Department. Says the *Times'* contributor:—"The Bengal Government is quite willing to defray what is really an Imperial work from its provincial revenues. But the practice of cutting down the grants for provincial purposes, and of appropriating the balances to make good Imperial deficits, has been carried so far that a Provincial Government finds itself crippled in undertakings of such magnitude, however urgently needed. It is to be hoped that, on the revision of the financial contracts next summer between the Supreme Government of India and the Provincial Government of Bengal, provision will be made for the gradual accomplishment of this most important work."

LORD ROBERTS thinks that the official idea of converting the young nobles and princes of India into English gentlemen should be carried out with a certain degree of care and caution. He holds that the danger of failure lies in the sudden withdrawal of the wholesome restraint of the tutor, and the Prince being left in his adolescence to choose his own advisers and companions. The former being of course Natives feel it to be a patriotic duty to show that the results of European training are not good either for the prince or for his people. The companions selected are not unlikely to be of the lowest type of adventurer. These dangers it must be admitted have in some cases proved very real. On the other hand, many Princes have profited much from European tuition. It is difficult to suppose that much danger to the stability of the Empire lurks in occasional failures, and that no advantage accrues in the far more numerous cases in which the European education has been a bracing and stimulating influence.

ITi s stated that the s.s. Khedive, has ground at Porebunder. The boat formerly belonged to the P. and O. Company, and now the property of Dada Abdullaly and Company. It left Bombay harbour on Sunday afternoon for Porebunder, with about 300 passengers on board, under the command of Captain Mathews.

YESTERDAY afternoon, Mr. T. W. Cuffe, took his seat at the meeting of the Municipal Standing Committee, being appointed a member of that body in place of Mr. S. Rebsch, resigned. The chairman and all the other members of the Committee heartily welcomed Mr. Cuffe's return among them.

DURING the third quarter of last 122 new properties were assessed in Bombay, and the valuation of 249 existing properties was increased, and these raised the rateable value to the city by two lakhs and a quarter. On the other hand there were decreases on the valuation of properties, which left the net total increase at Rs. 1,69,922. This means a net enhancement of the general tax by Rs. 9,394 of the water tax by Rs. 3,276 and of the halalkhore tax by Rs. 2,577.

THE M. M. s. s. Ernest Simons, which left Bombay on 26th December last, is reported by the Company's Agent in Bombay as having arrived at Marseilles, on 10th instant, at 8 a.m., and obtained "libre pratique at once."

LORD LANSDOWNE has written an official letter emphatically denying any ragulation of the War Office whatever preventing any subject of Her Majesty joining any Volunteer Corps. As a matter of fact native Indians have for many years belonged to corps at Oxford and Cambridge, and it is asserted that one joined the Davil's Own in 1868.

LORD ROBERTS performed in Dublin on Saturday (December 20) the ceremony of unveiling a statue to the late Surgeon Parke of the Emin Pasha Rescue Expedition. The statue is erected on Leinster Lawn, in front of the Royal Dublin Society's Museum, and close to the statue of the late Prince Albert.

DR. LE CAMUS, a well-known French hygienist, pronounces water to be the best of all drinks for promoting health of mind and body. Water, he maintains, not only nourishes the body but keeps the mind free and tranquil, and enables it to form same judgments. Nevertheless, the abuse of water as a beverage—by which he means taking it at the wrong time or too much of it—is injurious, and tends to produce a softening of the fibre and an aqueous condition of the blood. Hence water is not so well suited for persons of a phlegmatic temperament as those of a nervous and sanguine habit. He therefore recommends phlegmatic persons to drink a certain quantity of pure wine, or wine mingled with water, according to their age, constitutions, and so forth. Coffee and aromatic herbs also correct the ill-effects of water as a drink. We may add that Dr. Le Camus regards the phlegmatic temperament as the least suitable for the cultivation of the sciences—a remark which would have surprised Mr. Matthew Arnold, and will surprise those who fancy that the "phlegmatic Teutons" are the most scientific of all peoples. Lucidity as well as energy of mind is necessary for the successful pursuit of science and lucidity is rather a characteristic of the French people than the Germans. The French are admittedly the greatest of mathematicians, and in physical science they are at least equal to the Germans. In the hazier regions of philosophy and metaphysics, however, the Germans are perhaps greater than the French, but clearness of intellect is not so essential in this region as in physical science, of which the data are definite and tangible.

THE Committee appointed by the delegates of the seven leading Clyde Yacht Clubs to arrange for the production of a new class of small yachts have just made their recommendations. These are for a stronger, roomier and less costly boat than the existing racing machines, with a maximum sail area of 500 square feet. In racing, the crew to be [illegible]ited to five persons.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

THE FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

LONDON, JAN. 12

The Indian Famine Relief Fund now amounts thirty thousand pounds.

JAN. 13

H. R. H. the Prince of Wales has given £ to the Indian Famine Relief Fund, and Messr Glyn Mills and Co., £1,000.

STATEMENT OF LORD GEORGE HAMILT TO THE LORD MAYOR.

Lord George Hamilton has sent to the Mayor a most powerful statement, showing t immense extent of the Indian famine, and which estimates will cost the Indian Treasury from fo to six millions sterling.

THE CHOLERA ON THE NUBIA.

The troops from s. s. Nubia were landed to-day.

JAN. 13.

The s. s. Nubia is proceeding from Plymouth to the Thames.

Eight patients who were conveyed from her t the hospital ship are doing well.

THE NIGER PROTECTORATE.

JAN. 12.

Mr. Moor, the Commissioner and Consul-General for the Niger Protectorate, with a number of officers will sail from Liverpool for Benin next Saturday.

A punitive expedition will be organised immediately.

THE INDIAN QUESTION AT NATAL.

DARBAN, JAN. 13.

A powerful Committee has been formed here, and is negotiating with the Government to compensate the Indians with public money or subscription, and send them back to their country.

The Indians are alarmed at the turn things have taken, and are willing to return home.

THE MAILS.

LONDON, JAN. 12.

The P. and O. Co.'s steamer Candia (extra) left London on the 9th January, and is expected to arrive in Bombay about the 3rd February next.

THE GOVERNOR IN THE FAMINE DISTRICTS.

VISIT TO YEOLA.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

YEOLA, JAN. 12.

On Tuesday, the 12th instant, H. E. the Governor left Ahmednagar, at 10 a.m., arriving at Vambori at 11, where he received a deputation of the Vambori Municipality, on the platform, and then drove on and inspected the relief-works on the road to Rahuri. A total number of 8,707 persons find relief on this road, including 1,673 men, 2,649 women, and 1,209 working children, and 3,176 non-working persons. There are no signs of distress amongst these people, and the hospital is empty.

Lord Sahdhurst arrived at the Collector's camp at Rahuri, six miles from Vambori, at 1-30 p.m., and afterwards proceeded to the station, whence he rails to-night to Yeola.

MUNMAR, JAN. 13.

This morning, at 9 a.m., the Governor left his carriage at Yeola, and drove with Mr. Silcock, the Collector, and other District Officers, to visit the relief-works at Raitha, five miles from the station, where 2,047 persons are employed in stone-breaking, of whom 1,151 are of the Momin weaver class, and 896 Mahads; including 408 men, 578 women, 548 working children, 513 non-working persons. The weavers are said to prefer the work of stone-breaking to that of weaving as a relief-work, the looms established for relief purposes in Yeola being practically deserted. Lord Sandhurst afterwards drove to the town of Yeola, and visited several weaving establishments, where he saw the gold thread being manufactured. His Excellency purchased a handsome silk saree.

At 2-51 p.m., Lord Sandhurst left for Manmar by rail, arriving at 4, and proceeding at once four miles by tonga to the Anakrada relief-works, on which 2,161 people are employed, including 502 men, 660 women, 296 working children, and 703 non-working persons. His Excellency proceeds to Nasik to-night.

SERIOUS CASE OF REVENGE.

A SEPOY FATALLY WOUNDS HIS OFFICER.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

RANGOON, JAN. 13.

About noon, to-day, a serious shooting affair took place in the lines of the 16th Madras Infantry, which, it is feared, will have fatal termination. A sepoy, Surenarain Singh, fired at Subadar-Major Rahim tullah, the bullet passing through the officer's lungs. He is in such a precarious state, that no hopes are entertained of his surviving. The sepoy attempted to runaway after he saw the shot had taken effect, and was trying to re-load while running to fire on his pursuers, but one of the men tripped him up and he fell, the rifle falling from his hand. He made another attempt to escape, but a sepoy grappled with him, and held him till other sepoys came up, and arrested him. The man has been handed over to the police. He says the Subadar-Major was down on him, and always worrying him.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

LIVERPOOL, JAN. 12.

The Anchor Line steamer Australia left here for Bombay yesterday evening.

NAPLES, JAN. 12.

The B. I. S. N. Company's steamer Rewa left here this morning.

The Florio and Rubattino Co.'s steamer Singapore left Aden, for Bombay, at 9 p.m., on 12th instant, and is expected to arrive, at noon, on Monday, the 18th inst.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, JAN 12.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed steady. Surats dull.

Good Dhollera 3 14-32

The Manchester Market has been quiet.

2¾ per cent. Consols	111 3-4
3 per cent. Rentes	102¼
3½ per cent. Sterling Loan	118
3½ per cent. Rupee Paper	63 3-8
Bar Silver	29 11-16

TELEGRAPHIC LINE REPORT.

JANUARY 13.

STATE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey perfect. Via Suez, perfect.

CONTINENT OF EUROPE.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey, perfect. Via Suez, perfect.

AMERICA.—Via Brest, perfect. Via Valentia, perfect. Via Direct Cable, perfect.

AUSTRALIA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect.

CHINA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect. Via Bhamo, interrupted.

AFRICA.—Via Aden, perfect. Via Cadiz-Teneriffe, perfect. Via Lisbon St. Vincent, perfect.

Communication with Macao interrupted.

Madagascar and Reunion mail closes at Mauritius at noon, on Thursday, the 14th instant.

Bhamo route to China interrupted beyond the British frontier between Tingyueh and Yungchang.

THE WHITTAKER TRAGEDY.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

SECUNDERABAD, JAN. 13.

Dr. Hehir having, this morning, made certain alterations and additions in his evidence, which was read over to him by the Court, his Honour recorded, under Section 663 of the Criminal Procedure Code, his demeanour during his evidence, which throughout, his Honour said, was characterised by much hesitation and indecision, and he seemed to show great want of recollection in respect to matters which one would have thought had impressed themselves strongly on his memory, and it seemed to his Honour that witness rather recognised this fact, and tried to carry it off by volunteering information on less important matters of detail. Witness showed no indecision in repudiating charges which reflected on his honour, and which he did with what seemed to the Court to be genuine indignation, and as the question was put to the witness why he could remember facts which told against accused and not those which told in his favour, the Court felt bound to add that so far as it could see all statements by witness which adversely affected accused were given dispassionately and were marked by the same indication. As affected the rest of his evidence, the Court might even go further than this, for it was rather struck with the decision with which witness repudiated the idea hat he suggested that Mrs. Whittaker first called n witness at accused's suggestion, and the idea hat he suggested that Mrs. Templeton had any nowledge of the abortion. The answers which he ave on these subjects were as decided as those in hich witness vindicated his own character. The Templetons' butler said in his evidence that the saw Mr. Templeton give Mrs. Whittaker medicine about ten or twelve days before she died. She drank the medicine before dinner, and subsequently complained of great pain, and rising from the table she went to her room, and went to bed. Mr. Templeton then went to call Dr. Hehir. Three or four days after Mrs. Whittaker was better, and went out for a drive, but four or five days after she died. Other gentlemen besides Mr. Templeton used to go in and out of Mrs. Whittaker's room. The Temptetons' ayah, Ruth,said he seen accused going to Mrs. Whittaker's room on many occasions in the absence of Mrs. Templeton, oth during day and night. She also used to see ny others go into Mrs. Whittaker's room,and could tion names, if required. Mr. Templeton one ht gave Mrs. Whittaker some powder and pills w llow, which Mrs. Whittaker did, and soon complained of pains in the stomach, and was g about in bed. After a quarter of an hour Templeton told her to fold the sheet, the child ll, and to keep them in the bath-room. Soon [illegible] child was born, Mr. Templeton went for Dr. H [illegible] Everything, including Mrs. Whittaker's m [illegible] ress, were stained. The dirty things were re [illegible] the next morning by the sweeper woman. M [illegible] pleton told the sweeper woman in her prese [illegible] take away and bury the child. The sweeper wo [illegible] said the ayah told her one morning there wa [illegible] ld among the dirty clothes in the bath-roo [illegible] to bury the child outside, which she did. M [illegible] ittaker voluntarily gave her Rs. 3 for doing th [illegible] ss-examination of all these witnesses is rese [illegible]

A [illegible]ONSPIRACY OF BURGLARY.

AT [illegible] azagon Police Court, yesterday, Mr. W. R. H [illegible] n, Second Presidency Magistrate, disposed of [illegible] in which Inspector Sloane prosecuted three [illegible] ee burglars, named Dewchund Ramji, a sweet [illegible] seller, Hurperisingh Ruttonsingh *alias* Dyals [illegible] amratton *alias* Monshee, and Caloo Pudai [illegible] on a charge of house-breaking and theft of gol [illegible] ver ornaments, of the collective value of Rs. [illegible] longing to one Thackersey Lukhamchund [illegible] u, formerly a carpenter, at present retire [illegible] ng at Coombharwada. Mr. Velinker appea [illegible] e complainant, while the third accused wa [illegible] d by Mr. Ghamat, barrister-at-law. It appea [illegible] bout the beginning of December last, one Th [illegible] ed an acquaintance with complainant at [illegible] shop, where the latter used to sit and while [illegible] his time, he having been retired and taken [illegible] n. In the course of conversation with Thako [illegible] plainant learnt that his new acquaint [illegible] was also an opium-eater. About a couple [illegible] nths ago, complainant's wife died, leaving [illegible] l, aged about two years. On the afterno [illegible] nday, the 27th December last, Thakore went t [illegible] omplainant's house, and asked him to go t [illegible] or's shop, where, he said, he would present [illegible] w and have some conversation with hi [illegible] e complainant said that his daughter, who wa [illegible] would soon get up, and after giving her in c [illegible] a neighbour, he would go with him to the sh [illegible] ortly after the girl awoke, when the complai [illegible] ve her in charge of a neighbour, and the [illegible] ed to the shop in company of his friend, T [illegible] About half-an-hour after they had gone to t [illegible] a Hindu girl, named Vellibai, aged ten years [illegible] on the second floor of the house, was retu [illegible] ome from the bazaar, when she noticed t [illegible] d and third accused standing on the otla, [illegible] irst accused on the staircase. On going up [illegible] e observed that complainant's room was open. [illegible] ing that complainant never used to go out lea [illegible] room open, the girl became suspicious, and [illegible] the shop, informed complainant, who was s [illegible] ing with his friend, Thakore. Complainant w [illegible] e and found that his room had been broke [illegible] he lock on the door having been forced open [illegible] s of an iron jimmy, which was found lyin [illegible] oom. On examining the contents of the room [illegible] inant further discovered that his cupboard h [illegible] broken open, and the ornaments carried awa [illegible] om. He made a report to the police, who, a [illegible] tituted an inquiry, and in consequence of [illegible] information received from one Chucoo Tric [illegible] arrested the third accused on the followin [illegible] at Duncan Road. After his arrest the th [illegible] d made a statement, whch led to the arrest [illegible] two accused. The three accused then too [illegible] ice to the race-course at Mahaluximi, an [illegible] out a certain spot which, on being dug ou [illegible] n of the stolen property was found burie [illegible] The police also observed at a short distanc [illegible] spot, a red rag, which, they conjectured, [illegible] a spot where some further property might have been interred. The police dug up the spot but found nothing. All the a cu [illegible] then took the police to the house of one Kurson at Madanpoora, who, they stated,had got the remaining portion of the property, but the police on an inquiry at his house ascertained that Kurson had left Bombay for Baroda owing to the prevalence of the bubonic fever here, leaving his brother, Peeroo, in charge of the house. The accused, in presence of the police, questioned Peeroo where his brother Kurson had kept the property, which he had stolen from a spot on the race course. Peeroo pleaded his innocence, and though the police made rigorous inquiries, the remaining property was not recovered. During the course of the inquiries made by the police, it was decided that it was a premeditated plot on the part of the three accused to rob complainant during day time probably knowing that he is an opium-eater,spending most of his day time at the tailors shop. On the day previous to the day when complainant's house was broken into, they proceeded to the shop of a dealer in old iron named Noormahomed Vazier, at Chindhi Bazaar, and purchased from him an iron jimmy fo two annas and a-half. On the afternoon of the following day while complainant was away at the tailor's shop, the three accused proceeded to his houses No. 1 went up stairs with the iron jimmy, while the others remained downstairs on the *otla* keeping a watch for the complainant. No. 1 having accomplished the work, they all left the house and proceeded towards Duncan Road, when one Chicoo Tricum, an old offender, who was discharged from the jail about two months ago, met them near the three lights. Chicoo noticed that the pockets of No. 1 were filled with some ornaments and asked him where he brought them from. No. 1 replied that they belonged to him, and that he was then going to have them weighed. Chicoo said that he would also accompany them, and they all went to the house of a Purdasee mendicant, named Binuravan Nathooram, at Coombharwada. Chicoo stood in the passage, while the three accused entered the rooms, the Purdasee, having at the time gone to the standpipe to wash his clothes. No. 1 partially closed the door of the room,and having taken out the ornaments from his pockets, tied them in a bundle. While they were thus engaged, a Brahmin mendicant, abruptly entered the room and begged for alms. No. 2 at once gave him Rs. 2 and told him to leave the room, asking him at the same time not to mention to any one that he had seen them there. On the same night they went to the house of one Kurson, at Madanpoora, and having obtained a na_l, they proceeded to the race-course and buried a portion of the property there, which was recovered by the police, as above stated. While the Police inquiry was in progress,the second accused escaped from the lock-up, but he was secured by the police on the following day, at Matoonga. The accused denied the charge and pleaded *alibi*. In support of their plea they called two witnesses who contradicted their statements. His Worship, in convicting all the accused, remarked that though the whole of the property was not recovered, it was quite clear from the evidence that they were all concerned in the plot. Each of the accused was sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment. No 2 was then charged with escaping from the legal custody, and was sentenced to a further term of one year's like punishment.

CYCLING NOTES.

(SPECIAL FOR THE *Bombay Gazette*.)

HENRY JONES usually follows the quiet and unassuming profession of a clerk, but unfortunately Henry is ambitious by nature. Realising the advantages of the cycle in all phases of life he concluded that as a house-breaking implement it would sure to be a success. With Henry to think was to act. He successfully carried through no less than eleven burglaries, but on the 12th, while quietly riding off with the night's "swag," tucked comfortably on the handlebar of a machine, a constable with india-rubber shoes stopped him, and made some very unpleasant inquiries. The result was that Henry paid an enforced and precipitate visit to the nearest police station, and after due inquiries his burglarious history came out. Mr. Jones spent his Christmas holidays amidst rather restricted surroundings in Holloway.

The cities of the United States are to lead the world in the introduction of a complete fire department on cycles. At the present moment a firm of cycle makers at Racine, Wis., is preparing to equip in every detail a first-class fire department on pneumatic wheels. These wheels are not simply for the firemen to ride when they like, but the fire apparatus itself is attached to them, and when the alarm sounds, the firemen, instead of being drawn to the scene of flame and smoke by plunging horses, will "scorch" both themselves and their apparatus to the point of destination.

Mr. J. Morley has stated that he thinks the sport and pastime of cycling take up an amount of people's time which blocked more important subjects. He does not speak thus as an anti-cyclist—which he is not. Mr. Morley is too jealous of other people's time, I'm afraid. Leisure spent awheel is profitably spent, from many points of view.

Feats such as that of Hale's six days' race in New York do a lot of injury to our sport. There are unreasonable people who believe that because riders under extremely unfavourable conditions—such as a fight against nature in a closely packed, smoke-reeking hall—are affected mentally as well as physically, that cycling at all must be bad! The cry of "Is Cycling Healthy," which has gone up, is that of those folks who do not understand anything about the pastime, or they would not raise so absurd a question.

A very interesting ceremony took place on Sunday last (27th) at the little church at Ripley. A beautiful window, eloquent testimony to the esteem in which the late Misses Dibble were held by all classes of cyclists—who subscribed towards its production—was unveiled by the rector. Large crowds of cyclists appeared in Ripley from an early hour, and the scene in the afternoon was one that could not easily be forgotten. The memory of the departed ladies will be thus beautifully and touchingly kept green.

The membership of the Cyclists Touring Club had reached, at the end of November, the enormous total of 34,655. Mr. Shipton, the secretary, has evidently no sinecure in keeping in touch with his large flock.

Lady cyclists had a big outing on boxing Day at Wembley Park. The races included a mile, a half-mile, and two miles. A fair attendance adorned the rails of this pretty but almost ungetatable resort.

There are rumours that Olympia, the past home of Venice and Constantinople in London, will be purchased by a syndicate, who will cater for cyclists exclusively.

A public trial of the much-talked about electric tandem was announced to be given on Saturday last week at the Crystal Palace track, but owing to the wretched weather an indefinite postponement was necessary. Some say that the truth of the matter is that the track, owing to breaking-up, was unfit for use.

The next meeting of the National Cyclists, Union Council will be held at the Great Western Hotel, Burmingham, on Saturday, 23rd January, 1897 (the Midland Show week).

So Mrs. Lynn-Linton is not, after all, the rabid anti-cyclist many had put her down to be! She may be "down" on cycling in the cities, but read what pleasant thinks she has to say on cycling in the country :—"Things are different in the country. There the cycle is a boon and a blessing both to men and women alike. . . To them comes the 'bike' with a a power of usefulness and the power of enjoyment that justify its existence. It extends the circle and lengthens the tether. It gives facilities for more distant intercourse and brings nearer to their homes the more remote resources of civilisation. The clergyman's wife, living six or eight miles from the local metropolis, can mount her 'bike' and speed off for her bi-weekly or yet more frequent shopping. . . Husbands and wives, fathers and daughters, brothers and sisters, can take pleasant excursions together; and those who live on the outskirts of a picturesque region can become familiar with beauties which hitherto had been seen but once or twice in a year, and then at such cost and fatigue as took much of the gilt off the gingerbread." Very good, Mrs. Lynn-Linton—very good indeed!

NAGPUR NOTES.

OUR local correspondent hears with great satisfaction that the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces has sanctioned the grant of compensation for the high prices of grain at the rates and under the rules laid down in the Civil Account Code to all Government servants whose meagre salary does not exceed Rs. 16 per mensem, or in the case of persons required to keep a horse or camel, Rs. 24 per mensem.

The weather has been cloudy since Christmas eve, but, with the exception of a few drops of rain which ll on the 24th we have not had any rain until Wednesday morning. In the evening, a smart shower accompanied by thunder visited us, and it is feared that another shower is awaiting us, which will add, most probably, to the prevailing distress of starvation.

Thursday last, the [illegible] B. N. R. Rifles' annual juvenile sports drew a large gathering. The tennis courts were adorned with flags, pennons, and banners of various hues to represent the insignia of nations. A spacious pavilion was erected, in which were spread, on a number of tables, sweets of all kinds for the juvenile guests and their companions and guardians, and immediately outside this buffet, seats were arranged for the invited spectators, while in the Band pavilion was situated a Christmas tree studded with colored wax tapers and a number of small prizes, consisting of several cricket sets in boxes, many handsomely bound photo albums, rich plush hand bags and other trivial articles. These delightful presents which reflected great credit on the arrangements were exposed to view on tables in the centre of which stood the tree. At 3-30, the programme was opened by a flat race for youths, which was followed by another for the younger boys. A flat race for big girls came next, which was again followed by another for the younger ones. Then a three-legged race was run by boys, which won loud applause. The high jump competition had several entries, and many lads did their parts to perfection. Another pleasant race was the "wheel-barrow." The children and other guests then made their way towards the refreshment pavilion, where justice was done to the good cheer provided, after which those favoured by dame fortune won the prizes which Mrs. Wynne had the kindness to distribute. This wound up the affairs in which the youths were concerned. At about 9 p.m., the dance commenced, which was to the delight of all present. The Band of the corps furnished the dancers with their harmonious music.

On Christmas eve, St. Francis de Sales's Cathedral presented a scene so picturesque that it baffles all description. The interior was decorated with festoons composed of natural and artificial flowers. The altars especially wore a magnificent aspect. Between the main altar and that of St. Joseph's lay the crib which, without a word of exaggeration, represented a picturesque dell with verdant grass and foliage intermixed with flowers and ferns. The representation indeed spoke well for the energies of those who rendered their assistance in the decoration. The Rt. Rev. Dr. Pelvat with several of his clergy won the admiration of the people. His Lordship was in full canonicals, wearing his mitre and carrying his crook. The choir also added to the splendour, and the musical strains of the organ were supplemented with violins and other instruments. The Cathedral was inviting to behold, and drew a large assembly, among whom were observed many of other denominations; who seemed to take great interest in the service.

MR. GLADSTONE has addressed to Mr. Bernard Quaritch an interesting letter on his experience and impressions as a book-collector. He mentions hat he has been a purchaser during 80 years, to he extent of about 35,000 volume

REVIEWS.

THE January Magazines are full of interesting matter. THE CENTURY begins with a notice of "Lenbach: the Painter of Bismarck," the frontispiece being a fine picture of Bismarck by the artist. The painter's studio is one of the finest in Europe, and contains portraits of all the great men who are or were his contemporaries. He has built a private museum for his great collection, the public being admitted daily from one to three o'clock. The next paper is "Speech and Speech-Reading for the Deaf"; a most interesting account of the method adopted in Americanschools for teaching the deaf to speak and learn from speech instead of by signs. "Campaigning with Grant" is continued, "Napoleon's Interest in the Battle of New Orleans" and "Nelson in the Battle of the Nile" supply a fair amount of warlike papers. "Hugh Wynne, Free Quaker" is still unfinished. "Public Spirit in Modern Athens," from the able pen of M. D Bikelas, the chairman of the Greek Committee of the Olympian Games of last year, gives an instructive sketch of the new spirit that pervades the Athenian of to-day. The illustrations are fine, "The Lights of Sitka," a slight sketch, a little in Rudyard Kipling's style, "A girl of Modern Tyre," a short exciting story, "The Ladies of Llangollen," a lively account of Lady Eleanor Butler, and the Hon. Sarah Ponsonby's eccentric life of "Retreat in the Vale," are all interesting. In "Summer at Christmastide" we see how they spend that season in Jamaica in a temperature of 82°. We here are quite accustomed to that degree in our festivities. A paper on Edward A. Mac Dowell, an American musical composer, tells much about the studies and work of that still living musician. F. Marion Crawford's "A Rose of Yesterday" reaches a critical point in its eighth chapter. The number winds up with a thoughtful paper, by E. L. Godkin, on "The Absurdity of War."

MACMILLAN, for January, has eight good contributions. "The Secret of Saint Florel" takes first place. "Novels of Irish Life" is a critique on the works of Miss Edgeworth, Lady Morgan, William Carleton, Gerald Griffin, Charles Lever, Sheridan Le Fanu, and Miss Lawless. "Mr. Charles Lamb, of the India House" supplies much that was previously little known of the modest official career of Elia. "Not Made in Germany" is an amusing sketch of the troubles that beset a man searching in the library of the British Museum for what his soul requires. There is a study of "Catullus and his Friends." "A Chancellor of England" sketches the career of John Fortescue, who lived in the early half of the fifteenth century and whose fame is likely to endure for many years to come. "Juanita's Revenge," a tale of Cuban Spanish life, completes a very fair number of this magazine.

ST. NICHOLAS, for the young folks, begins the year with an excellent list of contents. "Danny and the Major," a well-told story of courage in a boy and fidelity in a horse, is real enough as a set off to the fairy tale, "Hopwing and the Missing Treasure," which follows. Then comes "Mirrors of Air," a pleasant explanation of the mysteries of the mirage. "Master Skylark" is continued, as is also "The Boy I knew," and "Yune's Garden." An account is given of Bertholde, an Italian dwarf of the middle ages. "A tender-hearted Monster" is another excellent fairy tale. "The True Story of Marco-Polo" is not yet finished, this number being concerned with hunting in Tartary in his day. "The Last Three Soldiers" has two new chapters. "St. Nicholas Day in Holland" winds up the number. There are the usual puzzles and charades, &c., besides a few short amusing articles.

THE ASIATIC QUARTERLY REVIEW has four articles on Asian questions, three by Indian officials, and one by Lord Stanley of Alderley, who writes on "The Privy Council, a Judge of Hindu and Mussulman Law." Africa is the subject of two papers, the colonies of two more. Oriental literature gives occasion for five thoughtful articles. Colonel Kenney-Herbert writes on Anglo-Indian Cookery. John Beames, B. C. S., retired, continues his "Plain Account of Buddhism." Several Indian civilians past and present give their views on "A Neglected Literary Field." All deplore the non-existence of a good history of India and the difficulties lying in the wayof a conscientious historian. The "Proceedings of the East India Association" occupy some pages, and "Correspondence Notes" present much interesting information.

MILITARY NEWS.

THE Government of India have accorded sanction to the permanent withdrawal of troops from Surat.

MAJOR G. H. O'SULLIVAN, A. A. G. and Captain R. J. Pinney. D. A. A. G., are posted to the Bombay Command.

MAJOR J. G. LUTYENS, R.E., is, on return from leave, posted to the Military Works Department, Madras Command.

LIEUTENANTS N. M. HEMMING and W. S. TRAILL, R.E., have passed the examination for promotion to the rank of Captain.

THE 1st Battalion Devonshire Regiment now leaves Peshawar on the 3rd March by rail and arrives at Jullunder on the 4th.

THE 1st Battalion Royal West Kent Regiment now leaves Meerut on the 15th February by rail and arrives at Peshawar on the 19th.

THE Wing of the 31st Madras Infantry at Falam in the Chin Hills was relieved by Military Police on the 1st instant, and left for Meiktila.

Two Companies 22nd Punjab Infantry will be left at Rawal Pindi, as the regiment passes through en route to Jhelum, for garrison duty, pending arrival of 40th Pathans.

SURGEON-MAJOR J. SHEARER on being relieved of his duties as Officiating Secretary to the Principal Medical Officer, Her Majesty's Forces in India, resumes the medical charge of the 27th P. I.

THE following Officers of the Army Medical Staff have been placed under orders for service in this country and are posted to the Commands specified: Bengal Command—Surgeon-Major G. T. Trewman, vice Surgeon-Major D. Wardrop, tour expired. Madras Command.—Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel R. Harman, vice Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. Burnett, promoted. Surgeon-Lieutenant L. P. Tomlinson vice Surgeon-Captain L Way tour expired. Bombay Command.—Surgeon-Lieutenant J. Walker, vice Surgeon-Captain J. Girvin, tour expired.

THE following is the revised trooping programme of Royal Indian Marine ships for the current season:—Warren Hastings—Left Cape town 6th January, with Wings, 1st Battalion King's Royal Rifle Corps, 2nd Battalion York and Lancaster Regiment; arrives Mauritius 15 January; leaves Mauritius 17th or 18th January, with 2nd Battalion York and Lancashire Regiment, arrives Bombay 27th or 28th. Clive—Leaves Madras 10th January, empty, arrives Cocanada 11th, leaves 13th ith Wing, 22nd Madras Infantyy; arrives Gopalw 14th, leaves 15th with Wing, 6th Madras Inpore [illegible] arrives Madras 17th, leaves 18th, empty, fantary [illegible] bay 25th, leaves Bombay 1st February arrives [illegible] es Karachi 4th, leaves 5th with 1st empty; [illegible] diers; arrives Mandvi 6th, leaves 8th Bombay [illegible] arachi 9th, leaves 13th with troop- empty; [illegible] Bombay 16th leaves Bombay ing deta [illegible] ping details; arrives Karachi 4th Marc [illegible] ; arrives Bombay 18th. 7th, lea [illegible] 5th February with troop- Canning [illegible] leaves Calicut 8th, arrives ing detai [illegible] 8th with 3rd Madras Rangoon [illegible] leaves, 23rd, empty, Infantry, [illegible] eaves Calicut and arrives C [illegible] with one Com- arrives C [illegible] Cannanore and pany Staf [illegible] ffordshire Regi- arrives Cal [illegible] oping details, ment; lea [illegible] No. 26 Com- arrives Bo [illegible] leaves 24th pany Easter [illegible] ives Bom- with No. 9 C [illegible] ada 13th bay 1st Ap [illegible] arrives January wit [illegible] Madras False Point [illegible] wing Infantry, a [illegible] Commissaria [illegible] 3rd February [illegible] 13th.

CONSIDERA [illegible] town on Dec [illegible] ed that severa [illegible] from the grou [illegible] lishment. Th [illegible] plan on the pa [illegible] of the outdo [illegible] liberty, as th [illegible] from their pa [illegible] another was wo [illegible] immediately re [illegible] Ralph Goodma [illegible] Beardown on [illegible] away. A hue-a [illegible] taken by the pri [illegible] escaped prisoner [illegible] covery is howev [illegible]

NEWS OF THE DAY.

REAR-ADMIRAL DRUMMOND, after visiting Darjeeling, will leave Calcutta in the Flagship Bonaventure for Trincomalee on the 19th instant.

THE consignments of grain from Sind to the Punjab and North-West Provinces on Saturday, amounted to 7,973 maunds.

THE Government of Natal has imposed a quarantine of twelve days, after disinfection, against all vessels arriving from Bombay.

IT is announced that the small expedition against the Chinboks has met with no opposition, and has released the captives remaining in the hands of the tribesmen.

THE Government of India have dealt generously with their commissariat contractors, who have been hit by the general rise in the price of food grains. They have been allowed to make fresh contracts, where they could show that heavy losses would be incurred if the existing ones were carried out.

IT is reported from Ferozepore that there are enormous stores of wheat, gram, and millet in the godowns of grain-dealers in the city, several waggon loads having been imported and stored daily for several months. The large imports of millet from Sind have at last, coupled with the effects of the late rain, had the effect of bringing down prices a little; and those who were holding back their stocks are becoming alarmed lest they should have to part with them at a loss.

IT is reported that, owing to the prevalence of the bubonic plague at Bombay, the flagship Bonaventure and H. M. S. Brisk will not proceed to Bombay on leaving Calcutta.

THE total number of deaths registered in Calcutta during the week ending 2nd January was 291, against 332 and 287 in the two preceding weeks, and lower than the corresponding week of last year by 30. There were 5 deaths from cholera, against 16 and 15 in the two preceding weeks; the number is lower than the average of the past quinquennium by 7. There were no deaths from small-pox during the week, against 2 in the previous week. There were 3 deaths from tetanus, against 4 in the previous week. The mortality from fevers and bowel-complaints amounted to 118 and 35, respectively, against 138 and 21 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 32·5 per mille per annum, against 33·1, the mean of the last five years.

A REVIEWER having charged Mrs. Steel with playing games with Indian orthography in her last novel, the lady has replied at some length in justification of herself. Regarding the accusation of ignorance, she writes that "the fact that, as Government Inspectress of Schools, I had to correct the dictation of six or seven thousand girls every year in Persian, Urdu, Hindi, Panjabi, may, perhaps, be taken as proof that I know how to spell common words." Having explained so much, Mrs. Steel confesses to a deliberate mis-spelling of some words in order that her readers might pronounce them correctly. But, she asserts, in every case where the Hunterian system did not lead to error of this kind it was retained.

AN Ootacamund correspondent writes:—"It is generally believed in Ootacamund that the Rev. Salvatori, whose assassination is reported by Reuter is the Roman Catholic priest who was, for a year, Secretary to the Apostolic Delegate Monseignor Aguti in India, and who was much esteemed here. He was, before joining the Delegate, a Professor of Theology in England. After holding the post for twelve months he was called to Rome to be a Professor of Theology there also. He held diplomas in Theology, Philosophy, Science and Civil Law, and was a profound linguist, being acquainted with no less than twenty-three languages. When in Ootacamund he was engaged upon a Comparative Grammar of Languages and had made considerable progress in the work. Those who knew him here will be much grieved to hear of his sad end, particulars of which we shall probably get later.

THE alteration in the caste constitution of the 2nd Bombay Lancers by the substitution of one squadron of Rajputs of Western Rajputana for Deccani Mahomedans, leaves the caste constitution of the entire force of Bombay Cavalry as follows: seven squadrons of Sikhs, six of Derajat Mahomedans, four of Pathans, two of Mahrattas, two of Jats, two of Western Rajputs, two of Rangars, two of Kaimkanis and one of Punjabi Mahomedans. With regard to the Sikhs, one squadron of them exists in each of the seven Cavalry regiments; of the six squadrons of Derajat Mahomedans two are in the 5th Bombay Cavalry (Sindh Horse), two in the 6th Bombay Cavalry (Jacob's Horse) and two in the 7th Bombay Lancers (Belooch Horse); of the four squadrons of Pathans one is in the 1st Bombay Lancers, one in the 5th Bombay Cavalry, one in the 6th Bombay Cavalry and one in the 7th Bombay Lancers; the two Mahratta squadrons are evenly distributed between the 1st and 2nd Lancers; the two Jat squadrons between the 1st Bombay Lancers and 3rd Bombay Light Cavalry; the two Western Rajput squadrons between the 2nd Bombay Lancers and the 4th Bombay Cavalry; the two Rangar squadrons between the 2nd Bombay Lancers and the 3rd Bombay Light Cavalry; and the two Kaimkani squadrons between the 3rd Bombay Light Cavalry and the 4th Bombay Cavalry; while the solitary squadron of Punjabi Mahomedans is found in the 4th Bombay Cavalry. It will thus be seen that natives of the Western Presidency are conspicuous chiefly by their absence from the ranks of the Bombay Cavalry, and now that the Deccani Mahomedans are to be eliminated, the only remnants of the Bombay population are the two squadrons of Mahrattas.

THE report of the Imperial Bank of Persia, for the year ended September 20th, points to slow but gradual progress. The dividend is the same as the previous year, 7s. per share, or nearly 5¼ per cent., but large sums have been written off for bad debts. The balance of the purchase money of the New Oriental Bank has been charged to revenue and £5,000 added to the reserve fund, so that the financial position is considerably stronger. The Capital Exchange Reserve Fund now amounts to £38,000 and the general Reserve to £32,000.

THE *Lancet* says: "Recent announcements that Dr. Jamesons condition has not been quite satisfactory have given rise to much anxiety. We are glad to say they are not warranted by any serious alteration in the patient's health which is slowly but surely progressing towards convalescence, and no untoward symptoms whatever have supervened, but recovery has been retarded by sleepless nights." It is stated that he feels very acutely the fact that he is free while his officers are still in prison.

ACCORDING to a despatch from Havana General Weyler, in the course of an interview, declared that he had returned to that city because he knew that the rebel bands were concentrating in the province of Havana, and he hoped to be able to disperse them promptly. The Commander-in-Chief added that he would soon return to the province of Pinar del Rio, the complete pacification of which would still occupy twenty days. General Weyler considered that the death of Maceo was a terrible blow for the insurgents, since they possessed no other general of equal prestige, and believed that many rebels would now abandon the insurgent cause.

THE Spanish troops in the Philippines have withdrawn to Manila. The rebels, who are strengthening Cavite, number 50,000. The country is full of sedition. At Mindanao some Spanish troops have revolted and several soldiers have been shot or mutiny. The situation generally is serious. A European committee of protection has been formed t Manila. General Polavieja, the new Commander-n-Chief, refuses to make any statement regarding is plan of campaign. It is believed, however, at he intends to hem in the insurgents in the rovinces of Bulayan, Batangas, and Laguna, and ally to destroy their chief stronghold in the vince of Cavite. According to the *Heraldo*, forcements, numbering 15,000 men, will be from Spain to the scene of action.

THE WHITTAKER TRAGEDY.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

SECUNDERABAD, JAN. 11.

THE further hearing of the case against Mr. Arthur Napoleon Templeton was resumed, to-day, before Mr. A. Williams, First Assistant Resident.

On the court re-assembling, Mr. Daly, for the defence, was asked by his Honour whether he required, as requested on Saturday, a copy of the previous proceedings with the view to applying to the High Court for the release on bail of the accused. His Honour said that he was sorry that, owing to a mistake in the printing office, the work could not be done yesterday. If the proceedings, however, were given to him with the object of appeal, his Honour could not proceed further with the case, as the High Court's decision on the question of remand would practically knock out the importance of the case for the Crown, if the High Court considered it material to grant the application for bail. Mr. Daly replied that he did not intend to urge the matter now; there may be other ground not included in his Honour's order which might not be yet elicited. As at present advised, he did not intend to appeal to the High Court, in view of the time and expense it would involve.

Surgeon-Captain Hehir was then called and further cross-examined.

Do you seriously believe that the accused ever instigated Mrs. Whittaker to commit abortion?—That I am unable to say.

Do you seriously believe that the accused aided or abetted Mrs. Whittaker in procuring abortion if an abortion was in fact procured?—I have no reason to think so beyond the facts I have already mentioned.

Dr. Lawrie has said in his evidence before Mr. Joshi that on the occasion of the drive you argued the point with him. How is this consistent with what you told us on Saturday that you had told Dr. Lawrie that there had been an abortion?—With all due respect to Dr. Lawrie, to the best of my recollection, no such argument occurred. I am quite certain that I mentioned the words "There seems to have been something like that" before Dr. Lawrie told me of Mrs. Templeton having communicated to him that I had on the preceding Sunday removed several clots.

How is your statement to Dr. Lawrie consistent with the statement you made to his Honour that you expressed regret to Dr. Lawrie on the evening of the 16th for having kept silent in regard to the case, and that you were grieved or sorry for having kept silent about the abortion?—In the morning I told him indifinitely or inferentially, and in the evening I told him positively.

Did you think that you wrote that letter in the interests of justice?—I wrote it on having read Dr. Lawrie's evidence on my way home. In that Dr. Lawrie had made a statement that I attributed the excessive hœmorrhage to excessive mensturation, of which statement I had absolutely no recollection.

Who showed you this on your way home?—Mr. O'Brien, the pleader, who was representing me in the court.

Who examined you in court?—I was examined by Mr. Crawford in the first instance. I believe his Honour asked me one or two questions to begin with.

Were you allowed to make a statement in court?—No, it happened in this way?—"I was asked to state what circumstances occurred during the drive, when I gave the statement now on the record.

Have you got Dr. Lawrie's letter in which he said a *post mortem* should be held?—I think I have.

Mr. Norton said he had no notice to produce the letter. He undertook to produce it if Dr. Heheir gave it to him to-night Dr. Heheir, he said, was so untidy in his affairs at home that he could not get hold of all the papers he himself wanted.

Have you got that letter at home?—I think I have, I pointed out to Dr. Lawrie that I had received his letter of the 16th, It was received by me on the morning of the 17th. He said: "You better keep it, it may be needed." I understood from his remark that it would be required for future reference in some way or other.

What sort of terms are you on with Dr. Lawrie?—As far as I can believe, on most cordial terms.

There has been some friction between you, hasn't there?—Nothing beyond what happens between two men practicing in the same place for ten years.

Did you hear that Dr. Lawrie went to Faluknuma between his first and second visit to Mrs. Whittaker?

Mr. Lowndes objected to the question as it would not be evidence. Mr. Daly submitted that the question was relevant. If the witness said he did not know, that was the end of it. He would put the question in another form.

Did you hear Dr. Lawrie say that he either went or intended to go?—I don't remember.

Were you written to by the Revd. Mr. Johnstone about a death-certificate in this case?—I was written to by Mr. Templeton enclosing a letter from the chaplain about the certificate. To the best of my recollection I returned the letter to Mr. Templeton. I have got a press copy of the letter written to Mr. Templeton.

Did you fill up any death-certificate?—I did.

What did you do with the death-certificate?—I wrote a special certificate for the occasion, which I sent to Mr. Johnstone. I did so under protest, stating that there was a form for the purpose which should have been sent to me, but which was not. I believe I made this protest to Mr. Templeton, and I also communicated it to Mr. Johnstone by letter.

What was the ground of your protest?—On account of extra work, and for being imposed upon, every moment of my day being taken up.

You got a note from Mr. Templeton, did you not, informing you of the fact of Mrs. Whittaker's death?—I did. I think it was about 5 or 10 minutes past 6 p.m. on the 16th.

Where were you between 4-30 and 6 p.m. on the 16th?—I was first in the racquet court about 4-30 to, and afterwards till 6 p.m. at Dr. Lawrie's house.

Being such a busy man, Dr. Hehir, I suppose you always have word behind where you have gone?—Not always.

Did you get Mr. Templeton's note informing you of the death, before you said Dr. Lawrie that night?—I did.

Then you had your conversation with Dr. Lawrie, and made your confession to him after the death of Mrs. Whittaker?—I did.

In your supplementary evidence before his Honour, you say there was some reference made in the presence of some people, about the ergot. Now, will you swear Dr. Hehir, that the subject of ergot did occur on that occasion?—To the best of my recollection it did occur.

You also wrote a letter, I believe, to Mr. Johsi in regard to your evidence. Do you think it was a proper thing to do to write to the court on two occasions like this?—I did it in pure ignorance. On the first occasion I was not told by Mr. Joshi that it was wrong.

Why did you ask for protection, Dr. Hehir, on the night of the 23rd?—Because I was perfectly certain that I was being harrassed by persons in my compound and moving about my room. I have kept, I believe, a copy of the letter to Colonel Nevill, asking for a guard for protection. I do not keep press copies of all my letters.

Why do you suppose you were being harassed by people?—Because on three occasions I saw people running out of the house. I don't know who they were. I may have been in an extremely irritable condition that night from the annoyance to which I had been subjected.

Did not Dr.Lawrie come in to see you on the night of the 23rd to examine you as to your condition?—No. He came to take me to a case in consultation, at about 7-30 p.m. I was in a fit condition to go to a consultation with Dr. Lawrie. I wrote for the guard long after Dr. Lawrie left.

Now I put it to you, that if you were in a fit condition that night, why did you run out of your house and threaten to shoot the guard?—I did threaten them, but not to shoot them.

And you chevied them round the compound?—I did chase them, and send them home.

Why did you threaten the guard?—Because they were making considerable noise; and because I thought it might have been these people who were knocking about. My consultation with Dr. Lawrie in no way affected my mental balance.

Now, Dr. Lawrie, with the information he had about this case in his possession, had you more or less in his power?—I am not prepared to answer that question. In answer to the Court, witness said:—I was not aware that he could utilize any knowledge in his possession to my material detriment.

Why could he not utilize it to your detriment if he chose to?—He might have.

You have admitted that you made a professional mistake in keeping back information from him?—In a modified way I did, but there would be some difference of opinion on the question even among medical men.

If Dr. Lawrie had chosen to take a hostile view, he might have made things uncomfortable for you?—He might have, but I don't think his action would materially affect that aspect of the question.

Have you never had an opposition information which would have made things uncomfortable for Dr. Lawrie?—I don't I think I have. I can swear I have not.

Have you never had a statement made regarding a certain lady and Dr. Lawrie?—I may have had. I have not kept a copy of that statement. I may have had a copy.

What became of it?—I destroyed it when I returned from England, as I did with all my useless correspondence.

The court here interrupted by saying that before any further questions of this sort were put, it should like to know where their relevancy came in. Mr. Daly replied that it was a part of his case to show that there was a collusion among these persons to defeat the ends of justice, and through these Mr. Templetion was placed in the unfortunate position he was. There was a substantive defence that there was collusion, and that there was an arrangement between Dr.Lawrie and the witness that they should hide [illegible] w about each other. He meant to sh [illegible] der section 7, Evidence if he could prov [illegible] as he would do, [illegible] submitted he had [illegible] the questions. [illegible] not wish [illegible] other names wh [illegible] the case as clear as possible; but the fact in issue or relevant to the issue, was that there was a combination to effect the ruin of the accused in the case. Counsel had the names of the people written on a piece of paper and proposed to hand them to his Honour. Mr. Lowndes and Mr. Norton objected to its being used in that way. They did not object to other people's names being brought out. Mr. Daly continued to remark that this charge was the result of a conspiracy of which the witness and Dr. Lawrie were members, and as showing that there was a motive for this combination he submitted that the questions he put to the witness were relevant to the issue.

Mr. Daly to witness: Was not the statement made by a certain lady expected to die, regarding the conduct of Dr. Lawrie towards her?

The Court, in a written order, disallowed the question under Section 161 of the Indian Evidence Act.

Mr. Daly then wished to ask the witness whether Mrs. Whittaker complained to him of any attempt of familiarity on Dr. Lawrie's part with Mrs. Whittaker? If his Honour objected to the question he would reserve it for later on when he had no doubt that witness would be recalled. The witness answered "No."

Did Dr. Lawrie ever inform you what instructions he had from the Resident in regard to the *post-mortem*?—He did not. I have not had conversations with Dr. Lawrie, specially in this case. We have spoken in a general way when we had met.

Did Dr. Lawrie come to examine you on Saturday, the 19th December, at your house, about the circumstances of Mrs. Whittaker's death?—I cannot remember his coming to examine me specifically about this case. I can't recollect the special circumstances of Dr. Lawrie's visit.

How is it you can remember other incidents specifically which go against the accused, but you cannot remember this?—I should like to know what part of the conversation you refer to.

I suppose you think I am laying a trap for you. Now answer me, have you not had frequent conversations with Dr. Lawrie on the subject of this case?—Yes, frequently I believe I went to Dr. Lawrie's house in connection with the subject of the death-certificate. I was not sure whether we had to sign it conjointly. I knew there was a insignificant difference in our views to the introduction of the word scepticimia in place of blood-poisoning. I went and candidly explanied that I could not substitute the word scepticimia in the certificate for blood-poisonnig, but was quite prepared to use the words blood-poisoning.

As the result of your conversations with Dr. Lawrie have you not decided upon a mutual plan of campaign in this case?—Certainly not.

You stated on Saturday that you attended Mr. Templeton's family for seven years. How do you account for the statement that Dr. Lawrie was their regular attendant?—About a year ago, there was a slight *contretemps*—a difference between Mr. Templeton and myself on which I felt myself obliged to relinquish medical care of his family, and it was then taken up by Dr. Lawrie. Since that time I have not attended the Templetons professionally.

Will you now explain the peculiar circumstances under which you took a fee from Mr. Harman, who is staying with the Templetons?—After he asked me what my fee was, I remonstrated by saying I did not usually accept fees from people who were staying in housesof old friends, and after a few other words of good-humoured chaff on both sides he went away without paying any fee. I believe it was Mr. Templeton who later on referred to Mr. Harman's fees, and I told Mr. Templeton I would write to Mr. Harman on the subject. I did so, stating that it was against our rules to force an obligation on any of our constituents that my fee for my first visit was Rs. 15, and each subsequent visit connected with the same complaint was Rs. 10. I have no recollection whatever of the conversation on the night of the 15th with accused when a statement was made that a political intrigue seemed to exist against him.

The Court: Did you say on that occasion "Well, Laurie says it will shut people's mouths, as they were talking"?—I believe that was said.

The Court: Do you remember this "The accused then askad who the people were and he said his enemies at the Residency, and that a political intrigue seemed to exist against him"?—I don't recollect that. By Mr. Daly: I should deny it if the accused said the conservation was correctly repeated.

I take it generally that you deny the political ingue as part of the conservation?—I do.

Was there any attempt or suggestion on the part, of Mr. Templeton to stop the *post-mortem*?—I believe there was not.

When you drove up to the house on the night of the 6th, the carriage drove up to the front door and the carriage went round to the stables, did it not?—I do not recollect. I don't remember to have gone round to the stables to fetch a brown bag from the carriage.

I put it to you that you went to the stables and fetched your brown bag, and was admitted into the house by the bath-room door by Mr. Templeton in order to save time as Mrs. Whittaker was very bad?—I have no recollection of that.

Have you got any other diaries besides those that have been produced?—Yes, official diaries same as the books I have produced. I have no private diaries in which I make entries. I had a diary in which I recorded Dr. Lawrie's treatment of one. But I have no diary in which I recorded Dr. Lawrie's tyrannous or oppressive treatment of me. I had one in which I recorded the more important events of my life. My daily relations with Dr. Lawrie necessarily caused his name to figure frequently in it.

And you say that this diary contains the important events of your life. Was that not an odd thing to do?—I destroyed it as my present press-book contains all important records.

Witness wanted to know whether he was obliged to answer these questions. Dr. Lawrie was his superior officer, and he would much rather not.

Do your press copies contain all the materials you had in your diary?—They do not. I destroyed the diary when I returned from England about December year before last.

If that is so then that diary would not throw any light on the circumstances of this case?—Not to my knowledge.

Have you no other book or diary besides the books you have mentioned?—I have one which is a continuation of the books I have destroyed. It is an extremely private book, and it is in existence.

Mr. Norton undertook to produce the book, and the Court adjourned for lunch.

Re-assembling at 3 p.m., Dr. Hebir was further cross-examined.

By the Court: Do you swear that there is nothing bearing upon this case directly or indirectly in your private diary?—I do, sir.

By Mr. Daly: Do you recollect what dates it covers from end to end?—It was written from 1892 to 1894. I should mention it is not written in diary form.

I thought you said that this was a diary which was written as a continuation of a diary which you destroyed since your return from England in 1896?—It is. I have not kept a more recent diary, except those that have been produced before the court. I have kept official diaries. The official diaries I keep cover the period to which the present case relates, and there are no entries in those diaries bearing upon this case.

I think you sent in Mrs. McNamara to attend on Mrs. Whittaker?—Yes. She was to nurse the patient generally. If any syringing was to be done, I suppose she would have had to do it. I did not tell her that Mrs. Whittaker had an abortion.

Have you seen Miss Da Costa from day to day since this case has been going on?—Yes, on most days, and we spoke in general terms about Mrs. Whittaker's death. Miss Da Costa's brother has been very ill, in fact dying, for the past month, and it has been necessary for myself and Dr. Lawrie to go to the house frequently.

Miss Da Costa has visited your solicitor, has she not at your suggestion?—She has.

May I take it that you realize your position in this case by retaining the services of Mr. Norton?—I justified my position from the remarks addressed to the Court by counsel for the defence at the last hearing.

When did you first retain legal advice in this case?—Between the 18th and 20th December. I retained Mr. O'Brien at the advice of friends between the 20th and 22nd December or thereabouts.

Then you realized the gravity of your position from that date?—I realized the necessity of legal advice from the rumours I have heard.

Did you or Miss DaCosta, either of you, remove any bottles from deceased's house on the morning of the 10th December?—*Not on that date, but I did on the evening of the 6th.*

Why should you remove bottles on the evening of the 6th?—I removed them because I took them. They were chlorotorm, antiseptic oil, etc.

The accused has often been at your house on other matters unconnected with this case?—Yes.

Re-examined by Mr. Lowndes, witness said: The seven years' attendance upon the Templetons was broken about December 1895, and it was due to a complaint of his professional attendance upon one of Templeton's children. He and the Templetons were personal friends, and the friendship was resumed about six weeks after he returned from England. There were two or three persons instrumental in bringing about this reconciliation—Mr. Norton and Dr. Lawrie. The first interview he had with Mrs. Whittaker lasted about quarter-of-an-hour. He was speaking approximately only of the visits. He did not remember accused having gone to him on one occasion, or on any occasion, and there was no entry to that effect in his diary. The rough notes he had made were made on two separate slips of paper.

Now are you a tidy man? Are papers kept tidy in your home?—I am, except in the matter of the papers in this case which I am having a search made for now. He did not enter Mr. Templeton's name in his diary as having been visited on the 28th, because he did not think it an important matter. There were only two occasions on which accused went to him, and the second visit would be on 5th December.

You have said on referring to your diary that the accused's first visit to you was on the 4th December, while from your case book No. 1 there is an entry "28th, A. N. T. called to-day." Which is correct?—The case book is correct. I believe I omitted one visit altogether. I believe now there were visits from the accused on the 28th November and again on the 4th th December.

At this stage the case adjourned till [illegible]

THE BUBONIC FEVER.

The Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending at 10 a.m., yesterday, give the following results:—

	Cases.	Deaths.
A Ward (Fort and Colaba)	11	2
B Ward (Mandvie)	2	2
C Ward (Bhuleshwar)	10	8
D Ward (Girgaum)	6	5
E Ward (Byculla)	31	15
F Ward (Parel)	8	2
G Ward (Mahim)	0	4
Arthur Road Hospital	0	0
Parsee Hospital	0	5
Jain Hospital	0	2
St. George's Hospital	0	1
Harbour	0	0
Total	68	46
Total to date	3,394	2,356

During the 24 hours ending yesterday morning, at 10 o'clock, 226 deaths were registered in the city from all causes.

CONFERENCE IN THE TOWN HALL.

A correspondent states that, at the meeting of the local medical men called by Dr. Cleghorn at the Town Hall, on Tuesday last, a good deal of discussion arose in considering Dr. Cleghorn's memorandum regarding the point whether the bubonic plague was contagious in a large or only a small measure, and regarding Professor Haffkine's suggestion for the establishment of a military patrol round Bombay, so that nobody should be allowed to go out of the city limits. Some doctors proposed the addition in Dr. Cleghorn's memorandum that the plagne was contagious in a large measure. Others practitioners strongly opposed the addition, refusing to sign the memorandum if the addition in question was made. In the result the original words were allowed to stand. The general opinion regarding Professor Haffkine's suggestion for a military patrol was that it was impracticable; and instances were given of the failure of such a measure in countries where it had been tried before. The suggestion was, therefore, abandoned. Finally, all those present signed Dr. Cleghorn's memorandum. Professor Haffkine added a note to the memorandum to the effect that he did not see the benefit of driving many healthy persons from an infected house because of the danger of the plague spreading to other places.

THE PRESENT POSITION.

The Health Officer, Dr. Weir, has written a letter to Mr. George Cotton in which he states that the outlook seems more favourable than for many days past, and he hoped that, except in Parel and in the Byculla districts the improvement will continue. It being cloudy yesterday, it was possible that the improvement effected in the situation might not be maintained. Dr. Weir then refers to the assistance he received from mill-hands in Parel. He says that they were foremost to render him assistance. They cheerfully allowed their houses to be lime-washed and otherwise disinfected. On hearing that a case had occurred at Lalwady, in a chawl owned by the Hon'ble Mr. Fazulbhoy Visram, Dr. Weir proceeded there at once and ordered the tiles to be removed and the house to be disinfected. He found next day that his instructions were scrupulously carried out, and no more cases had occurred.

There are at present 21 sufferers from the plague in the special Parsee hospital. The total number under treatment in the Arthur Road hospital is 72.

The plague appears to have gone beyond Bandora, and to have reached Irla Parla, near the station of Andheri, on the B. B. and C. I. Railway line. A Baniah cloth merchant, who had gone to live there in the house of a Parsee lady, named Dhunbaijee Cooverjee Coorlawalla, was attacked by plague on Sunday last. He is now under the treatment of Dr. Gonsalves of Bandora.

The exodus from Bombay has compelled some of the native newspapers to reduce their size and to delay publication. The *Native Opinion*, the *Hindustan*, and the *Rajiabhakt* find it impossible to get men to do their work even at high wages. The *Hindustan* fears that it may have to remove its press to an out-station.

A sum of Rs. 2,216 has been subscribed to the fund for the construction of temporary sheds for the residence of healthy occupants of affected houses among the Parsees. The fund has been started under the auspices of the trustees of the Parsee Punchayat Charitable Funds, who have appealed to the committee for Rs. 20,000 for the purpose.

Following the example of the hack victoriawallas, the cartmen of Bombay plead their inability to pay the wheel-tax on the ground that, owing to the cessation of trade, they have not been able to earn their living. The Police and the Municipal Commissioner are holding a consultation on the subject.

QUARANTINE IN EUROPE.

From information received by the P. & O. Company, it appears that passengers are allowed to land at Brindisi, but before doing so all their effects have to be fumigated and the detention caused by this operation will probably prevent people proceeding with the mails to London.

There is no quarantine on arrivals at Marseilles unless a case of plague has occurred on board a steamer after leaving Bombay and within 9 days of arrival at Marseilles.

THE EXODUS.

The following is the number of passengers that left and arrived by the B. I. S. N. Co. and Shepherd and Co.'s steamers for Kathiawar Coast and Karachi, Mangalore, and the coast of Bhownuggur, &c., from 1st to 12th January:—Left 3,580, arrived 2,471; excess of departures over arrivals, 1,109.

The passengers for Jaygad and coast and from there by Shepherd and Company's boats for the same period are as follows:—Left 10,997, arrived 3,161; excess of departures over arrivals, 7,836.

The passengers leaving for Goa and Coast and arrived therefrom by Shepherd and Company's boats:—Left 14,430, arrived 1,567; excess of departures over arrivals, 12,963. This gives a total net decrease of population by departures to coast ports during the first twelve days of the year of 17,233 persons.

OLD GRAIN IN THE CENTRAL PROVINCES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

Sir,—I read with interest Dr. Waters' lecture in connection with the prevailing plague, a report of which appeared in your issue of yesterday's date. In connection with Dr. Waters' theory that bad grain had something to do with the origin of this dire disease, it might interest the public and the authorities to know of a conversation I had about two months ago with a friend of mine who had then lately returned to Bombay from a visit to Jubbulpore and the surrounding districts. The conversation had no reference to the plague, but to the prevailing scarcity in India and the general paucity of food-grains in the country. My friend informed me that he had been told by merchants in Jubbulpore that the stock of grain in that district was very small. He inquired why this was so, and remarked that there ought to be a large reserve of buried grain as people were in the habit of storing grain in underground pits. He was informed that in ordinary times this was no doubt the case, but that for the last three years the rainfall in the district had been scanty. The result was that the usual crop was not produced, and as the district was a large exporting district, all or nearly all the buried grain had been removed from the ground and sent out, and that some of this grain was from 15 to 20 years old. As Jubbulpore exports largely to Bombay, it is very probable that some of this old grain must have come here and been consumed. As the above conversation was not in reference to the plague, and as at the time I did not in the least suspect that bad grain had anything to do with the plague, I did not inquire what this old grain was—whether wheat, millet, or of other variety. I and my friend were merely discussing the question of the reserve of food-grains in the country. As a layman I cannot of course offer any opinion as to the correctness or otherwise of Dr. Waters' theory, but I address this letter to you so that it may lead to authentic inquiries being made to ascertain if any old grain such as is mentioned above was imported into Bombay and consumed.—Yours, &c.,

ABDALLA M. DHARAMSI.

THE BANDORA PARSEES' DIFFICULTIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

Sir,—On behalf of my co-religionists residing at Bandora, I crave leave for the appearance of the following in your influential columns. The trustees of the Bombay Parsee Punchayat have through their secretary circulated a notice to us, Parsees, residing at Bandora, that in future the Bandora Parsees should not count upon the Punchayat for the services of their corpse-bearers to convey the remains of any one dead to the Towers of Silence, as the Punchayat are short of hands for the purpose. Taken aback by such a circular some of the Parsees at present residing at Bandora went to the secretary, entreating him to withdraw the circular, and in reply that gentleman is said to have made the absurd reply, "that the Parsees residing at Bandora do not come under the category of 'Bombay Parsees,' and therefore they have no right to the services of the corpse-bearers of the Parsee Punchayat of Bombay." I am surprised to see such an intelligent man as Ervad Jeewanjee Mody manufacturing such a dictum. I say "manufacturing" because such an idea never entered the mind of his revered predecessor, nor could the maturer judgment of the trustees dream that for the last last thirty years they should boycott their co-religionists and fellow citizens, who are but part and parcel of the Bombay Parsee community. If the secretary argues that he has no hands to spare for the Bandora Parsees, it would then be better for all concerned to increase the present staff of corpse-bearers. If he cannot get the hands in Bombay, let him rise equal to the occasion and prove his capacity for the post of secretary to the Punchayat in dire times like these and engage men from the mofussil. No one with a heart to work can say that even extra and enhanced wages would not induce the poorer Parsees from the mofussil to offer their services for the work in question. The "RaneeSikka" even in the times of a plague, and surely during the period of a famine, retains its purchasing power of labour. I am confident that the trustees, under the direction of their "guide, philosopher and friend," Dastoor Jeevanjee Mody, will reconsider their decision, and desist from the unenviable task of disturbing the minds of their hard-pressed and suffering community by such untimely and ungenerous innovations. Let us trust that their kindly offices will be exerted more in the direction of pacifying the minds of their co-religionists in the present crisis than in making the wounds of their sufferings larger.—Yours, &c.,

Bandora, Jan. 13. A PARSEE BANDORAITE.

II.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

Sir,—Will you kindly allow me the use of your columns for the ventilating of a grievance, which, though now local in character, may assume larger importance in course of time? The bubonic fever is not only playing havoc with our lives, but also the deuce with our religious ceremonies after death. A recent circular issued by the secretary of the Parsee Punchayat to us, Parsee residents of Bandora, deprives us at a stroke of the pen of the services of our professional corpse-bearers to carry our dear departed to their last resting place on the plea of there being a pressure on the existing staff of overwork and of the difficulty of getting fresh recruits for the task. Knowing the grinding poverty of our lower classes, it is the opinion of a lot of us that the second difficulty can be obviated by the payments of double or treble the usual payments. Unless that remedy is tried to its fullest extent, I would request the secretary not to add a fresh curse to our lives. With his present responsibilities and overwork I daresay his post is no sinecure, but let him rise to the occasion, let him not be cowering under difficulties, but try his best to surmount them. The plague at its worst will not trouble us now for long, so let him not look to the gloomy side of things only, but be cheerful even under difficulties and meet temporary afflictions by temporary remedies. I would write more upon the matter, but I expect good results from the action of the meeting of the Parsees of Bandora on Sunday next, so I would simply content myself by bringing the matter to the notice of your numerous readers.—Yours, &c.,

Bombay, Jan. 13. A BANDORAITE.

LIFE ASSURANCE AND THE PLAGUE.

Having heard it rumoured that some Life Assurance offices were refusing to grant policies on account of the plague, we have made enquiry of several. The agents have informed us that there is no truth in such a rumour, as from past experience the Life Assurance companies in London were never more prosperous than during the pestilences there, as many were induced to insure their lives so as to make suitable provision for those dependent upon them in the event of their untimely removal by death. These were people who otherwise would never have thought of assuring at all.

Mr. McLauchlan Slater believes that the famine will affect the new business of Life Assurance Companies more than the plague, if it continues for any length of time in the country. Towards the close of the sixteenth century, he says, the ravages of the plague had caused such alarm in England, that to "quiet public feeling" the Government of the day wisely thought it disirable to publish correct accounts of the progress of the pestilence. These were called "Bills of Mortality," and though they were not at first maintained consecutively, they were afterwards found so useful as to be continued from 20th December 1603, to the present time, so that in calculating the rates for life assurance famine and plague have been fully taken into consideration so as to form a orrect basis for the operation of life assurance.

BONFIRES FOR THE PESTILENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

Sir,—Dr. Waters in his thoughtful lecture said he believed the germs of the plague are air-borne. Smoke is generally considered one of the most, if not the most powerful germicides on a large scale. The following suggestion is made to raise smoke to kill the germs. That on a night to be fixed hereafter (at a very early date) fires of wood, tar, and brimstone be simultaneously lighted in every street, in a selected district, say, at ten o'clock, at night, when the wind has gone down (so that the smoke produced will hang about for some time), and kept alight all night. That the fires be not more than twenty-five feet apart. That each set of, say, five fires be in charge of an European or Eurasian volunteering his services for the night. That large bonfires be lighted, at the same time, in open spaces. That the Kamatipura district be the one selected. That all those who are willing to give their services for the night, at once send their names and address, on a card headed "Volunteer Plague Suppression Brigade" to the Municipal Commissioner. Do not wait until this suggestion is adopted, but volunteer at once. The spontancity with which this call is responded to, will, of itself, prove to the authorities whether the European and Eurasian communities are unanimous in agreeing to this suggestion. Details for the carrying out of it can be safely left to the Executive committees required.—Yours, &c.,

Jan. 13. W. COLE.

RELIABLE CURE FOR BUBONIC AND DELIRIOUS FEVER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

Sir,—During the last three months we have invented five different remidies, and in all the preparations, I, and my friend, a Unani homœopathic practitioner, were successful in about 250 trials except twenty old cases.

In all our treatments I was paid Rs. 4 as my visiting fee, and annas 8 for medicinal expenses in six cases.

Many people are being launched into eternity by this obstinate plague. I therefore tried my best and lost no time in bringing the said remedies to the notice of Government officials, and the so-called public doctors, but they were and are rather deaf to me.

Now it is clearly proved that the doctors have no reliable remedy for it, and when our country physicians, after curing hundreds of cases, inform them of the invention, I am at a loss to understand why they should treat them so contemptuously and ridicule them. Is this not an evil omen, or sign of bringing more sorrow and agony on the country even when their pride is so much depressed.

We requested them to test our remedie [illegible] or ge them tested in our presence or absence, [illegible] they expressly decline or give some lame e [illegible] s and allow the sufferers to linger and die. [illegible] an be said to this idea?

Why not try our remedies and [illegible] s? Because, that which is unsearchab [illegible] ergetic researches and enthusiasm, 'is [illegible] be had, and placed before them, then [illegible] truthfulness, and when proved s [illegible] the invaluable souls that pass aw [illegible] ny and in distress.

Now, the public, [illegible] ing our medicine, and if it [illegible] r early second day in seco [illegible] strongly hope, will get reli [illegible] nt doses according to the [illegible] acks the most in a wee [illegible]

Up to this t [illegible] eated free of charge an [illegible] ed as long as I can affo [illegible]

[illegible] AR,
[illegible] ician,
[illegible] atipura.

[illegible] ETTE."

[illegible] persons [illegible] brought by [illegible] e sate and [illegible] authorities [illegible] sures to re- [illegible] ding them [illegible] g increases, [illegible] he inhabit- [illegible] Yours, &c.

[illegible] CHINOY.

[illegible] LAGUE

[illegible] avsari:—Our [illegible] d a second [illegible] prevention,

in the Luxuman Hall, on Sunday. The Sanitary Commissioner, Baroda State, presided, and in introducing the lecturer, said that the learned lecturer needed hardly any introduction to them, for his public spirit and service to the public in this place are well-known to all. He thanked him for his zeal and trouble in the cause of the public health, and expressed his surprise that he dreamt not that the small town of Navsari possesses such an able and studied speaker on such a stiff subject, which is dealt ably in all its bearings. The chairman in an able speech explained the good intention and policy of the Government in regard to municipalities.

THE PRESENT VISITATION IN BOMBAY.

The able writer on Indian Affairs in the *Times* points to the large measure of success Bombay achieved by western sanitary arrangements in diminishing the mortality which is usually associated with a visitation of plague in oriental cities. He is unfortunately in error in putting the loss experienced in Bombay up to the middle of December at 1,000; but this apart, the general conclusions are at once rational and encouraging:—

There can now be no doubt that Bombay has during the past five months been suffering from an attack of the true plague. Until the receipt of our telgram of Saturday there seemed equally little doubt that the measures taken to combat the disease had brought it within manageable limits. That telegram, although a cause of anxiety from the increase of cases which it reports, need not create alarm. The detailed history of the outbreak up to the close of November, forwarded week by week by the Indian mail, leads us to expect fluctuations in the death-rate, and also shows the vigour with which any rise is met. Under the control of sanitary science it has changed both its character and its name. It is no longer the Black Death nor even the Plague—literally, the *Stroke* of God—but bubonic fever. The immunity which Europe has enjoyed since 1841 from the plague, whose place seems now to be taken by cholera in the western world, makes us forget the terrible meaning which once attached to the word. The Black Death in the 14th century is said to have swept away 100,000 victims in London, and it so depopulated the rural districts as permanently to alter the conditions of industrial life in England. The Great Plague of London in 1665, and the pestilence which, in 1720, slew nearly half the inhabitants of Marseilles, presented the same glandular enlargements as the present epidemic in Bombay, regarded as characteristic of the true plague.

But if the memories of that medieval scourge of mankind are growing faint in Europe, the peoples of Asia have during the past half-century been repeatedly subjected to its horrors. In the spring of 1830 people were dying of it, in the city of Baghdad alone, at the rate of 2,000 per diem, and on one day, the 21st of April, no fewer than "30,000 dead bodies were counted of persons who had perished within the town." The Calcutta *Englishman*, in a remarkable article, enumerates its Asiatic outbreaks during recent years. It appeared on the banks of the Euphrates in 1867 and 1873, in Persian Kurdistan in 1871, in Baghdad in 1877, and in Hong-kong a few years ago, not to speak of its more terrible devastations within the Celestial Empire of which we in Europe hear little. The *Englishman* concludes that it has its endemic foci in China and the Euphrates Valley, just as cholera has an endemic focus in the Gangetic delta, and that it ranges chiefly along a zone of Asia from the 20th to the 40th degree of north latitude.

In these circumstances, the normal freedom of our great Indian ports from the plague speaks well for their municipal sanitation. Calcutta, with its densely-packed million of inhabitants in the city and suburbs, is within the Plague zone, and is brought into daily contact with ships and crews from centres of infection. Indeed, Calcutta lies in the same parallel of latitude as Hong-kong, which lately paid its tribute of thousands of lives to the plague. Yet Calcutta keeps itself free from its ravages, and in Bombay its attack has hitherto been so vigorously grappled with as to reduce the panic-striking pestilence to a form of glandular fever. The medical history of this visitation will form a memorable episode in the struggle of science with disease. At first it seemed as if the western capital of India was fairly in the grip of a monster which throughout Asia has hitherto defied control, and which continues its ravages till it wears itself out by the destruction of a quarter of the population. As a matter of fact, the death list in Bombay probably will not exceed 1,000 for the whole outbreak, in a city with over three-quarters of a million inhabitants. But the virulence of the disease was such that for some time almost every case proved fatal, and of 730 persons attacked up to the third week of November 517 died. The effective cause, whether a bacillus or an atmospheric or insanitary condition which concentrates itself in the one dreaded word plague throughout the rest of Asia, has diffused itself into a general rise of the death-rate in Bombay. In medieval Europe the pestilence was observed to select its victims so largely from the indigent and ill-fed classes that it got the name of the poor's plague. It still retains this character in Asia, and the Bombay death lists of the past few months place the results in a striking light. The outbreak first occurred in one of the most squalid quarters of the town, and with certain exceptions it has spared the wealthier classes. Englishmen, whether through a transmitted immunity which they have shared with the nations of Europe since 1841, or from a higher standard of living, or from whatever cause, have enjoyed a freedom from attack so remarkable as to render isolated cases among them quite phenomenal. While the mortality from all causes ran up to 63 per thousand at the beginning of November, and again, so far as a typographical error in the returns permits of verification, to 63 per thousand in the third week of that month, the general death-rate among the well-fed Parsis was just under 30, among the even better-fed Eurasians 24, and among the amply-fed European community only 18 per thousand.

These returns give a wholly different aspect to the plague from that which it bore to the European cities of the middle ages and bears at this day to the peoples of Asia. It is no longer a mysterious "stroke" from Heaven, a visitation of God beyond the control of man, but an indirect product of dirt and bad food, commencing among the classes least able to resist the virus, and scarcely touching those whose higher standards of life and of generous diet enable them to defy it. At the same time this correlation of the plague with poverty opens up serious possibilities during the preset scarcity. So far the pestilence has been kept pretty well within Bombay city, and sporadic outbreaks in other towns have usually been traced to infection brought from Bombay, and have been effectively stamped out. In Bombay itself a process of cleansing has taken place on a scale which would have been beyond the powers of any city of medieval Europe, and which is still beyond the powers of any Asiatic city outside of British India. The essential features of British Indian sanitation are a pure and practically inexhaustible water-supply brought by engineering works from distant sources to the cities, a complete system of municipal distribution of the supply, the power of thoroughly flushing the sewers, and a scientific drainage system for rapidly getting rid of noxious products. It is with her water-works that Bombay is fighting the plague. The battle, although so far in her favour, cannot be considered as won whilst the shadow of famine hangs heavily over the land. Sanitation may, however, claim that she has up to the present brought within quite manageable a compass pestilence which has hitherto defied control, and which might have isolated Bombay from the rest of the world at a moment when it is of urgent importance that every port of India should be open.

Calcutta has defended herself from the plague with the same weapons, and, so far, with perfect success. The rapidity and completeness of organization with which she used her water-supply for cleansing and flushing and setting the great city in order against the enemy is a feat worthy of the strong municipal bodies of Paris or Berlin. Indeed, now that the plague has been effectively kept at bay, the newspaper critic arises in Calcutta, just as he would in a European capital, to question whether the precautions did not exceed the necessity. But if Bengal, which lies in the worst line of the Asiatic plague zone, and is especially threatened with famine, gets through the next five months without her sufferings being aggravated by the black pestilence, she may owe her escape in no small measure to the Palta water-works and the Calcutta pumping-stations.

A serious collision occurred about a quarter to ten on Saturday (Dec. 20) in Lower Hope Reach, a few miles below Gravesend. The P. and O. steamer Ceylon, from Yokohama, was proceeding up the river when she came into collision with the Norwegian steamer Venezia, outward bound in ballast for Cardiff. The Venezia was struck amidships on the port side, and being built of wood she soon filled and turned bottom upwards. The whole of the crew were saved by getting on board the Ceylon and a river tug. There was, however, no time to save any of their effects. The crew of the Venezia were landed at Gravesend in the afternoon by the Ceylon, and taken to the Sailors' Home. Captain Neilson of the Venezia, stated, in an interview with a reporter, that he was on the bridge at the time of the collision. It was foggy. On sighting the Ceylon he signalled that he was going to starboard, thus bringing the Ceylon on his port side but by some misunderstanding the Ceylon ran into him and his vessel sank. The Ceylon was apparently uninjured.

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KATHIAWAR NOTES.

A correspondent writes:—Although there has not been a further fall since the November rain, rather a severe cold for the last three weeks has much benefited the standing crop of wheat, and has kept down rates. A supply is also coming in from Karachi via Bhownuggur, and the worst fears, we are glad to say, have now, to a large extent, been dispelled.

A week of excitement which passed over Rajkot, beginning with the presentation of the insignia of K. C. S. I. to the Thakore Saheb of Palitana by the Political Agent, had been productive of some very interesting and instructive speeches.

Colonel Hunter invited the Native Chiefs to witness the ceremony, and took the opportunity of addressing them on the present and past state of Kathiawar showing how happy have they been under the protection of the Paramount Power. The speechs delivered on the occasions of the prize-distributions of the Rajkumar College and Barton Female Training College and on laying the foundation-stone of the Russalkhanji Zenana Hospital also attracted much attention. The Thakore Saheb of Palitana was greatly eulogized for his generous gift of Rs. 2,000 for filter-beds of the Victor Jubilee Water-works at Rajkot.

Mr. Ratiram Durgaram Dave, B.A., LL. B., a Fellow of the Bombay University, and a specialist in archæology, &c., enlightened us on the "Ancient History of Gujarat and Kathiawar." Mr. Waddington, who presided on the occasion, showed by his opening remarks, while introducing the lecturer, that he possessed by no means a mean knowledge of History.

Among the questions now being discussed in Kathiawar, one relating to the Rajasthanic Court is of the first importance. The Political Agent ha convened a meeting for the purpose of settling ra ther than discussing the question on the 10th Febr uary next. The States which are for its abolition, sa (1) That suitors are not generally satisfied with i decisions. (2) That the work of appeal continual increases. (3) That it is on the whole costly. (4) Th much time is spent in arriving at decisions. The States which advocate its continuance do so on the ground, that by its abolition they will lose an institution independent both of Government and States, brought into existence after a hard struggle and much expense. The argument of the latter carries more weight, but at the same time it cannot be denied that the constitution of the court does not require amendment. This may be so done as also to curtail, to some extent, the cost of maintenance.

In order to bring this controversy to a peaceful end, it is suggested that Native States from Class I. to IV. should appoint a committee from among themselves to decide: (1) Whether there is any need of a separate establishment like this court. (2) If there be one, whether the court as at present constituted requires any amendment. (3) Whether it is not advisable to select two pa [illegible] officers for a term of five years in place of members [illegible] only particular States now working with the P [illegible] sident of the Court. (4) The cost at which [illegible] Survey Establishment should be maintained. [illegible] Whether the Survey Superintendent should no [illegible] a native. (6) Whether the Political Agent a [illegible] should act as President, or some one of his Assi [illegible] would do instead, or an independent Euro [illegible] Officer is necessary. The conclusions to be arriv [illegible] on these points should be referred to all the [illegible] including those under Government administr [illegible] and a final report be then drawn up and confi [illegible]

We have been considerably disappointed [illegible] e result of the appeal made to H. E. the Vic [illegible] y the Hon. Mr. Mehta, whose question H. E. t [illegible] vernor of Bombay disallowed. There are pe [illegible] in Kathiawar competent to pronounce an opi [illegible] on this subject, but they have not, it is to be r [illegible] ed, the courage to speak about it in public. [illegible] not this question seem to be of vital importanc [illegible] he Governor, Viceroy, and others, possessin [illegible] ra-ordinary powers, to be discussed in public, [illegible] the principles on which decision of Kathiaw [illegible] peal cases are based, set right if found defective [illegible] will certainly do no harm to Government, bu [illegible] the other hand, add to its credit, and give sa [illegible] tion to all people concerned.

Railways undoubtedly offer a great relief [illegible] affect-ed districts in this time by carrying grai [illegible] them so long as other districts do not suffer f [illegible] want, but have a surplus stock to dispose of. [illegible] when there is distress all round, not only d [illegible] ways serve no useful purpose in this particular r [illegible] but are, on the other hand, a great burden to [illegible] State, making a big hole in the revenue. It, th [illegible] e, fol-lows that only irrigation works on [illegible] large scale will save the country from famine [illegible] have now unfortunately been becoming pe [illegible], and can only be averted by strong and [illegible] antial measures. It now behoves the Govern [illegible] Cal-cutta to give their very best attention t [illegible] atter, and consider the advisability of settin [illegible] part of the enormous sums intended to b [illegible] every year in railway construction.

It is a matter worth considerati [illegible] her a part or the whole of the money (14 l [illegible] ended to be spent in 28 miles of railway, now [illegible] oject-ed between Wadhwan and Dhrang [illegible] not, with advantage, diverted to buildin [illegible] and other water-works to benefit the inhab [illegible] of the area through which this railway will p [illegible]

The New Year's honors have been [illegible] pointing to us, as they have been to many els [illegible] Only one official under the Gaekwar's ser [illegible] s been made Rao Bahadur, and the whole [illegible] hiawar has been disregarded. We have, [illegible] some consolation in the hope, that on the o [illegible] of the celebration of her Majesty's sixty ye [illegible] le, the Naib-Dewan of Junagadh at least, wa [illegible] guished himself remarkably in breaking dow [illegible] strength of the Baharvatias of his State, a fe [illegible] qual, if not superior, to that of the Baroda [illegible] will not be forgotten.

TROOPS FROM ENG[illegible]

The troops expected to arrive at [illegible] by the hired Transport Dunera, to-day, are [illegible] ler, and will, on arrival, be distributed as s [illegible] For Bengal Command—4 officers, 380 n [illegible] missioned officers-men, 8 women, and 15 chi [illegible] For Punjab Command-6 officers, 198 [illegible] missioned officers and men, 3 women, and 1 c [illegible] or Madras Command-2 officers, 2 ladies, 1 ch [illegible] non-commissioned officers and men, and [illegible] For Bombay Command and [illegible] Corps-30 officers, 14 ladies, and 5 children [illegible] on-commissioned officers and men, 21 wome [illegible] 8 children. The 1st train to Deolali starting [illegible] m., to-day, with drafts of 22nd, 26th, 41st, 4 [illegible], 71st, and 80th Field Batteries, R. A., 1st [illegible] giment; 1st Somerset L. I., 1st Royal High [illegible] 2nd Yorkshire L. I., and families, pro [illegible] ia Deolali, consisting of 9 officers, 441 [illegible] omen, and 24 children, and arrives a [illegible] 5-15 a.m. next morning. The secon [illegible] to Deolali will start at 6-40 p.m., this [illegible] with drafts of 2nd South Lancashire Regt., 2nd Derbyshire Regiment, and 2nd Oxford L. I.; consisting of 8 officers, and 410 men, and arrives at Deolali, at 6-15 a.m., on the following day. The third train to Poona Ghorpuri starting at 7-25 p.m. with drafts of 1st, 5th, 16th, 40th, 42nd, 45th, and 72nd Field Batteries, R. A; 1st Cheshire Regiment, 1st Northampton Regiment, and all families proceeding via Poona, consisting of 6 officers, 284 men and families, and arrives at Poona Ghorpuri at 7 a.m., to-morrow.

FOREIGN TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE.

Latest dates of foreign messages received at Bombay, from the United Kingdom, during the 24 hours ending, at 8 p.m., of the 13th January, 1897.

(Difference in Longitude allowed for.)

Via.	Latest Dates. D.	H.	M.	Time occupied in transmission. Hours.	Minutes.
Turkey	12	5	0 a.m.	[illegible]	25
Teheran	13	1	59 p.m.	...	36
Suez	13	3	0 p.m.	...	5

Time occupied in the transmission of messages to Bombay, during the 24 hours ending, at 8 p.m., of the 13th January, 1897.

	Maximum Time. H.	M.	Minimum Time. H.	M.
From Calcutta	...	49	..	3
„ Karachi	...	13	..	2
„ Madras	...	30	...	1

Corsica is still what it was in the days when Prosper Merimee wrote the story of Columba. A band of 36 bandits are now being tried at Ajaccao Assizes for some 150 robberies and several murders. Fourteen of the band, including the leader, are named Bartouli, but the leader is better known by the name of Manaccio. The outrages committed by the band were fearful. The brigands' nightly occupation was to force a way into houses of peasants, take away all the latter possessed, and threaten to murder them, the threats being occasionally carried out. When the gang lacked food they were supplied by persons in sympathy with them, and were also frequently assisted in escaping from the police.

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WRITERS AND READERS.

In Mr. Gladstone's letter on books, which appears in the *Academy*, he mentions as two of his treasures Hannah More's Sacred Dramas, and a quarto copy of Hallam's Constitutional History. Inquiry shows that, apart from the personal associations attaching to these volumes, they would be of little value in the eyes of a book-collector. An ordinary copy of the Sacred Dramas would fetch a mere bagatelle, and a quarto Hallam nothing like the price at which it was published in 1828. The quarto *format* for such work has long disappeared, and nobody seems to have made a fad of its collection.

Of course, as Mr. Gladstone reminds us, he has ever been a book-collector, but as the book lover, gathering about him volumes in which he is interest d, he happily still has activities. In that connection s letter to Mr. Quaritch suggests a little fact which y not be known. At one time the Grand Old Man s in the habit of calling regularly of a Wednesday ernoon at the famous book-shop in Piccadilly. The ly rising of the House of Commons on Wednes s gave him a leisure hour for the inspection of Mr. ritch's shelves and a gossip on books in general.

Sometime ago Mr. John Murray announced that e had in preparation the unpublished works of ibbon the historian. He has now arranged to pub sh all the three volumes about the middle of next month. When Gibbon died he left several different autobiographies which he had written, and his letters and papers generally, to the care of his friend Lord Sheffield. A volume of autobiography, consisting of extracts from these remains, was prepared and published, but that was necessarily only a preliminary to the publication, which is now to take place, of the whole of the materials. It has been a somewhat laborious task to arrange and edit them.

Mrs. Ernest Hart's book about Burma will be published by Messrs. Dent in January. It is entitled Picturesque Burma; Past and Present, and it has a full series of illustrations. Many of these are from drawings made by Mrs. Hart during the journey which furnished the occasion for this volume. She writes in a chatty way of Burma as she saw it, and of its people and institutions. That she should find the country picturesque was inevitable, and similarly she found herself interested in its traditions and history.

Mrs. Hungerford adds a gossipy chapter of autobiography to the stories composing her volume, An Anxious Moment, which Messrs. Chatto are about to publish. She is a widely-read woman novelist—an Irish lady living in Ireland—and no doubt an endless number of correspondents had asked her how she wrote her stories. Here she explains her methods, and one of them is to write when the spirit moves her, and only then. She rarely writes more than two or three hours a day, but, having all her notes ready, she makes good progress in that time. Ideas for plots occur to her at all times, and gradually take form and shape.

Sir Mountstuart Grant Duff has finished his Notes from a Diary, and the book will appear within the next three weeks. Sir Mountstuart has known most of our distinguished people during the past forty years. His acquaintance has covered literature and society as well as politics, and apparently he has succeeded in keeping a diary. For the present his extracts from that diary will relate to the period 1851 to 1872, but later he may give us the gist of other volumes.

Something has already been heard of the little paper for the few which Messrs. Henry are to publish under the title. The Children of the Hour. It will really be an essay once or twice a week by some well-known writer—that with smaller accompaniments. One becomes a subscriber, and the penny post brings him at breakfast time a tasteful periodical in a large square-shaped envelope. We speak to you, says the prospectus, as the essayists spoke to the subjects of Queen Anne. Thus it is an old-world idea revived, and certainly quite a galaxy of contributors has been secured. Among them are Mr. William Archer, Mrs. Craigie, the Earl of Crewe, Mr. Thomas Hardy, and Mr. Le Gallienne. Except for these names, we should be inclined to regard the venture as a joke.

Mr. Frank R. Stockton is writing a volume of stories to illustrate the history of the State of New Jersey. With this corner of America Mr. Stockton is very familiar, and he has many picturesque historical fact to the select from. While the stories—based always on familiar data—are arranged chronologically, there is no attempt to cover the ground continuously. The book is one of the series which is to appear in America dealing with all the States of the Union.

On an early date Mr. Fisher Unwin will publish a volume having the title On the Nile with a Camerra. It is by Mr. Anthony Wilkin, who was on the Nile just before the commencement of the recent campaign. He took a large number of photographs, some of which deal with the scenery, others with the remains of ancient Egypt. It is worth mentioning, in connection with a book like this, that art volumes have been in emphatic demand for Christmas presents. "Every Christmas," a well-known bookseller declares, "the art book seems to increase in favour, only this time the increase has been quite remarkable."

Professor Keasbey's long promised volume on The Nicaragua Canar and the Monroe Doctrine will appear after Christmas. The book is really more compprehensive than its title, for it is a political history of the various projects of inter-oceanic transit arcoss the American isthmus. Dr. Keasbey has consulted practically all the material available on the subject, and after him there will probably be little to say. He writes, needless to mention, as a strong supporter of the Monroe doctrine. The book has several maps and, what should prove interesting, a birdseye view of the projected Nacaragua Canal.

There is to be published in Liverpool early in the new year A History of the Liverpool Privateers and Letters of Marque, by Mr. Gomer Williams. The greatness of the city, says the publisher in announcing the character of the forthcoming work, was suckled on the twin iniquities of slave-trading and privateering; and the book is to consist of an account of both. In the section dealing with the privateers the author, who has made elaborate research for his material, will give descriptions of the sanguinary sea-fights in which they were engaged, the prison experiences and adventures of captured officers, the French prisoners in the town, anecdotes of the old merchants and shipowners, &c. The account of the Liverpool slave trade will be on an equally complete scale, and one of the characters introduced is John Newton, who was converted from atheism and rose from the position of captain of one of the Liverpool slave ships to be rector of St. Mary Woolnoth, the friend of Cowper and the writer of the Olney hymns and other works. Mr. Edward Howell is the publisher, and he will issue the book in a style uniform with Picton's Memorials of Liverpool.

Les Meres, by Alphonse Daudet, with illustrations by Myrbach, will be ready immediately.—M. Clovis Hugues, the Socialist deputy and poet, is correcting the proofs of a volume of verse, which will show his talent in a fresh light. M. Clovis Hugues has long been an enthusiastic student of the *langue d'oc*, and his new collection of poems is written entirely in Provencal.—A volume of considerable interest to historical students is in the press in Paris. Its contents consist of over thirty essays by different authors, all of them specialists, dealing with points of mediæval history. Among the subjects treated may be mentioned the Lollards and the agitation among the English working classes towards the close of the fourteenth century. The work, which is to appear under the title Etudes d'Histoire du Moyen-Age, is dedicated to M. Gabriel Monod. M. Lavisse, of the Paris University, has written a general introduction to the book in the guise of a letter to M. Monod.

Forthcoming volumes in the Bibliotheque de Philosophic Contenporaine are Matiere et Memoire: Essai sur la relation du Corps a l'Esprit, by H. Bergson, and Le Determinisme Biologique et la Personalite Consciente by F Le Dante. The next volume of the Bibliotheque Scientific Internationale will be La Photographie et la Photochimie, by H. Niewenglowski. The most luxurious volume of the season will be a work, dedicated by special permission to her Majesty Queen Victoria, dealing with Raphael's designs for tapestries. The illustrations, which are to number over 130, of which nine will be line engravings, reproduce the principal drawings preserved at the vatican, Hampton Court Windsor Castle, the Pitti Palace, Oxford University, and other public galleries and private collections. The volume, of folio size, is printed in red and black on tinted paper. The text, in French, consists of a historical and critical notice by M. Eugene Muntz, of the French Institute. The edition limited to 300 copies is ready.

M. Charles Bocher, brother of M. Edouard Bocher, one of the most prominent members of the French Royalist party, is preparing for publication a number of letters, touching on the war in Kabylia. M. Charles Boucher was one of Canrobert's orderly officers in Algeria.—Among illustrated books to appear in Paris may be noted an album containing coloured reproductions of nearly fifty water-colour drawings by M. Boutet de Monval, illustrating the life of Joan of Arc—an exhibition of M. de Monval's drawings for this work will be opened towards the middle of the month: a volume containing reproductions in heliogravure of forty of the works preserved at Chantilly of Fouquet, the famous miniature painter—this work is to be edited by M.F. A. Gruyer, of the French Institute; and an edition of the Histoire de Quatre Fils Aymon, illustrated by numerous coloured reproductions of water-colour drawings by Eugene Grasset; an edition of M. Catulle Mendes's version of L'Evangile de l Enfance de N.S. Jesus-Christ selon Saint Pierre, illustrated from drawings by M. Carlos Schwabe; a magnificent edition, copiously illustrated by A. Calbet, of M. Pierre Louys's immensely successful novel, Aphrodite,

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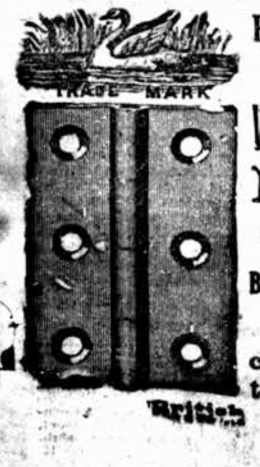

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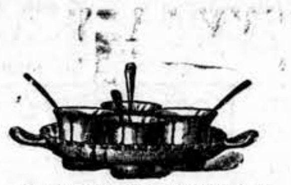

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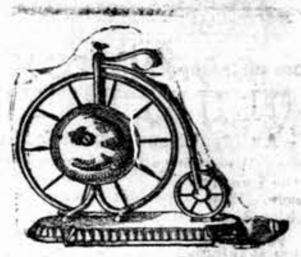

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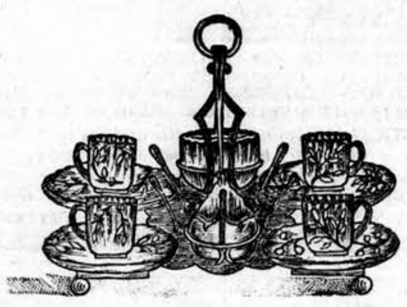

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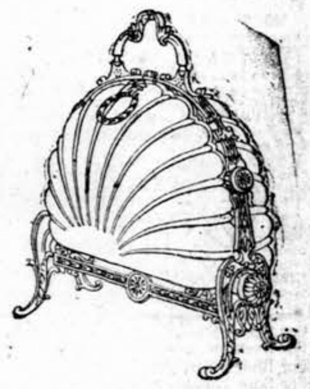

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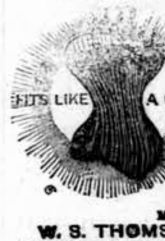

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